

# R AND THE MARATHAS

( 1724 - 1843 A.D. )

साधारण श्री विनयचन्द्र शान मण्डार, जयपुर

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## PREFACE

own as *Marubhumi*, has a romantic history any parallel else-where. The traditions of the ved the momory of the valour and exploits of oners in defence of their home, religion and he invaders. Its history has been a story of 'Glories Glorious Rathores' down to the period under er no connected account of the relations of the r with the Marathas, who came into political i during the period of the Mughal decline, research has touched only a fringe of it in some works on the Maratha history but none has of all the material available in Rajasthan. In the an attempt has been made to utilise all the Sanskrit, Rajasthani, Marathi and English the basis of their critical scrutiny a balanced put forward, for the first time, with sympathy ing.

s I could, it has been my endeavour to base this iginal and contemporary manuscripts, chronicles, d other available sources. I have collected a mass sifted them thoroughly and derived conclusions . I have tried to be as impartial as I could.

ork is furnished with numerous maps. The ve been selected very carefully mainly on account est in themselves and for their value in supplemen- tive. Copies of some of the Rajasthani and porary documents, connected with the subject study, have also been given in the Appendix

teful thanks are due, first and foremost, to Dr. G.N.  
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 . Udaipur (now Reader, History Deptt. Rajasthan  
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*G.R. Parihar*

## CONTENTS

	Pages
Introduction	i-xvi
Chapter 1 : Early contacts with the Marathas :	1-25
(A) Jasvant Singh in the Deccan.	
(B) Jasvant Singh and Shivaji.	
(C) Rathor War and Shambhuji.	
(D) Rathors and the Marthas under Shahu,	
Chapter 2 : The Dawn of Maratha influence in Marwar 26-60	
(A) Family feud and Abhay Singh.	
(B) Abhay Singh and <i>Subahdari</i> of Gujrat.	
(C) The Mughal, the Maratha and the Rathor interests in Gujrat.	
(D) The Ahmadabad Pact of February, 1731 and its consequences.	
(E) The murder of Pilaji Gaikwar.	
(F) The Joint-Rajput Princes' front against the Marathas.	
(G) Abhay Singh and anti-Marathan Junta in the Mughal court.	
(H) Abhay Singh, Holkar alliance	
Chapter 3 : The civil war in Marwar between Ram Singh and Bakht Singh ( 1749-1752 A.D. ) and Maratha Intervention.	
(A) Rivalry between Ram Singh and Bakht Singh.	
(B) Rathors divided into two camps.	



- (D) The Pindaris and Marwar
- (E) British treaty with Marwar vindicating the stopping of tribute to Sindia.

Chapter 6 : The Marwar-Exit (1818-1843 A.D.) 177-208

- (A) Madhu Raj Bhonsle (Appa Shiba) and the British power.
- (B) Man Singh helps Bhonsle against the British.
- (C) Last days of Appaji Bhonsle at Jodhpur
- (D) Subsequent friendly relations between the Rathors and the Marathas.
- (E) End of Marwar influence and rise of British influence in Marwar.

Chapter 7 : A General review of the period 209-231  
Maratha impact on Marwar: political, economic, social and cultural.

Chapter 8 : Bibliography 232-257

- (A) Persian Chronicles.
- (B) Persian *Farmans*, *Akhbarat* and *Vakil Reports*
- (C) Contemporary Marathi letters
- (E) Contemporary Rajasthani Kharitas and letters
- (F) Contemporary Bahi Record in Rajasthani
- (G) Rajasthani manuscripts.
- (H) Sanskrit Manuscripts and letters.
- (I) Khyat Literature.
- (J) English Documents (Unpublished).
- (K) English Documents (Published).
- (L) Published works in Hindi, Rajasthani and English.
- (M) Gazetteers.
- (N) Journals.
- (O) Maps.
- (P) Ephemery.

- (A) A document to illustrate the early relations of the Rathors and the Marathas in Gujrat. Text of Maharaja Abhay Singh's letter to Bhandari Amar Sinng regarding the Rathor activities in Gujrat in 1732.
- (B) Bakht Singh's letter to Madho Singh of Jaipur, written on December 28, 1750, giving his attitude towards Holker.
- (C) A copy of the *Qaulnama* between Man Singh and Jasvant Rao Holkar, January - February, 1804 regarding Rathor help to Holkar against the British.
- (D) A letter from Lord William Bentinck, Governor General to Maharaja Man Singh of Jodhpur, dated 2nd December 1834. It states that the British Government regarded the Maharaja in a state of probation on the throne of Jodhpur.
- (E) List of villages, granted in *Jagirs* by the rulers of Marwar to the warriors, who fought against the Marathas.
- (F) Rajasthani words used in the work and their meanings.
- (G) Administration of Marwar from 1724-1843 AD.

Errata

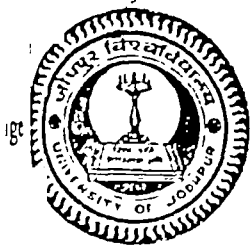
Index

## LIST OF MAPS AND SKETCHES

	Facing page
Marwar - Physical	Indroduction
Marwar - Showing the places connected with Maratha relations (1724-1843 A.D.)	1
Gujrat under Rathor-Maratha domination (1730-1733 A.D.)	34
Marwar-after the battle of Ajmer, May, 1752 A.D.	72
Marwar-after the treaty of Nagor, Febauary, 1756:	72
Maratha-De Boigne's march from Patan to Merta, June - September, 1790	123
Battle of Merta-September 10, 1790	125
1. Army arrangements at 5-30	
2. 1st. stage <i>Nagas</i> Routed, 7 to 9 AM.	
3. 2nd stage-Encirclement of Rathor cavalry	10 AM.

## LIST OF PLATES

		Facing Page
1.	Abhay Singh	28
2.	Bakht Singh	69
3.	Bijay Singh	120
4.	Man Singh	144
5.	Jodhpur fort	152
6.	Nagor Fort	152
7.	Jalore fort	152
8.	Mahamandir	184
9.	<i>Chattri</i> of Jayaappa Sindhia at Tausar (Nagour)	231
	A. Full View	
	B. Carving at the base of the <i>Chattri</i> .	



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## FORWARD

The history of Marwar goes back almost to the earliest period of Man's life of India when he moved along the bank of the river Luni as a food-hunter. Centuries later we find trade carvans passing through its sandy tracts to the rich sea-ports of the western coasts. Perhaps some of our earliest towns might have grown along this route, specially at sites where water, food and fodder were easily available. Thus perhaps originated the towns of Mandor, Nagaur, Jalore, Kiratakupa and Bhinmal.

In the eighth century, Marwar, then known as Gurjara, was a flourishing region, the home of wealthy traders as well as of the mighty Pratiharas who once ruled over territories from the western most tip of Saurashtra to the eastern most fringe of Bengal. Dr. G. R. Parihar has by giving this history in brief provided the necessary background for his account of the Relations of Marwar with Marathas.

He rightly begins his account of these relations with Jaswant Singh's operations against Shivaji during the years 1667-1699 A. D. This early contact between the Marathas and Rathors might have proved of some use when, after the death

of Jaswant Singh at Jamrud, the Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb attempted to capture the person and territory of Ajit Singh. The attempt, as is well known, resulted in the Rajput Mughal war which ended only after Aurangzeb's death, the defection of the Prince Akbar and his subsequent flight to Shambhaji's court under the escort of the valiant and chivalrous Durgadas Rathor.

The subsequent chapters of the book throw light on the various stages through which these relations passed up-to 1818 A. D. When the interests of the Rathors and the Marathas clashed in Gujarat in 1730, Abhay Singh tried to find a way out by entering into a pact with Peshwa Baji Rao. As it was not, however, approved by the Emperor. Kathore-Maratha relations deteriorated instead of improving. In 1734, therefore, a conference of Rajput rulers, at Hurda, tried to devise means to contain the Maratha menace. The attempt failed.

On Abhay Singh's death, the tussle for the throne, firstly between Ram Singh and Bakhat Singh and later between Bijay Singh and Ram Singh, provided the Marathas a good chance of interfering in the affairs of Marwar. In 1756, they turned Bijay Singh practically into a Maratha feudatory by forcing him to pay an annual tribute to cede Ajmer with Gadh Bitli and to promise that he would pay 50 lacs of rupees as war indemnity within three years of the agreement. His rival Ram Singh was given half the territory of Marwar but on conditions which were not anything better. Consequently, when the Marathas were defeated in the third battle of Panipat in 1761 A. D., the Rajputs tried to make the best of the opportunity. But once more success rested with the Marathas and then again in 1790 A.D. when the wheel of fortune seemed to have taken a decided turn in their favour, the Rathors were defeated in the battle of Merta and compelled to conclude the humiliating treaty of Sambhar in January, 1791.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

The events of the next twenty-seven years—perhaps the worst in the history of Maratha-Rathore relations are dealt with by Dr. Parihar under the heads, (a) Bhim Singh-Man-Singh struggle and Maratha interference, A. D. 1793-1803, (b) Anglo-Maratha war and Man Singh's role, A. D. 1802-1805, (c) Krishna Kumari episode and Maratha intervention and Marwar. In the last stage of these relations both Amir Khan and Bapaji Sindhia ravaged the land of Marwar brutally. Under the circumstances, Man Singh thought it best to conclude a treaty with the British in January, 1818, even though he was at heart unfriendly to them. With this ended the independence of Marwar and also its domination by the Marathas. There should have been perhaps nothing but bitter hatred for the Marathas in his heart. But he was chivalrous enough to help Appaji Bhonsle against the British. It was at Jodhpur that Appaji expired in July, 1840

Dr. Parihar's book concludes with a general review of the period. He is to be congratulated on producing this well documented and eminently readable account, the utility of which is increased still further by eight maps and sketches, ten plates, a select bibliography and a good index. It will, I am sure, be welcomed everywhere as a good contribution to the History of Rajasthan.

26-1-68,  
Jodhpur.

*(Dasharatha Sharma)*

## OPINION

It is being increasingly realised that the history of Rajasthan has received scant attention from historians of India. of the few serious studies, almost all are devoted to the political history of ruling dynasties, the only exception being colonel Tod who made an admirable attempt to reconstruct the socio-political system of the Rajput Ruling Houses. The character of the society of Rajasthan, as a whole, however, remains a very controversial subject and, indeed, has yet to be properly studied and assessed. The study of the age in the shaping of which the Rajputs played a dominant role remains to this day a vacuum. A thoroughly realistic approach based on an exhaustive study of the enormous source materials still available is a desideratum which calls for immediate answer. Dr Parihar has made an extensive use of the assets, available in the custody of the State Archives, and some of his chapters which deal with administrative and socio-economic aspects, are extremely well written. They go to analyse the basis elements which laid the foundations of the various patrons of the present society in Mawar and the contribution made by Dr. Parihar towards this direction shall go a long way in fulfilling long felt need. Besides, this he has been able to trace with considerable skill the course, which the Maratha Rajput relations in Marwar took, and his valuable book, I am sure, will be very well received, both inside and outside Rajasthan. He has laboured hard to produce a first-rate thesis and, as such, deserves our hearty congratulations.

*N.R. Khadgawat*  
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## OPINION

Jodhpur was by far the most important state in medieval Rajasthan. Its rulers sought in the scrub and desert of *Maru* a formidable line of defence against the advancing wave of Turkish conquest. Twice the Rathors were called on to unite their forces with those of Mewar to oppose the invasions of the Mughals. This period also forms an important epoch in the annals of Marwar inasmuch as its rulers performed many signal services for the emperor in Kabul, Bengal, Malwa, Gujarat and the Deccan. When the Marathas continued to foster disputes in search of pay or plunder, Rathors planned several grand campaigns to expel them from Rajasthan, Gujarat and Malwa. However, these ruinous wars and still more ruinous negotiation exhausted the resources of the state and led it towards universal rapine.

Dr. Parihar's scholarly contribution, planned and prepared under my supervision concerns itself with those events, movements, men and institutions which have importance for the course of Marwar History from 1724-1843. After describing the Maratha penetration in Marwar the writer has ably traced the successive stages of the Rathor-Maratha relations. He has also dealt with the relationship of the rulers of Marwar with the British Government. The author has skilfully narrated the entire account on the basis of all available contemporary evidences in Marathi, Persian, Rajasthani and English. The book contains interesting illustrations, some appendices and a critical bibliography. I hope it will be studied with profit by all students of Rajasthan History.

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Rajasthan University

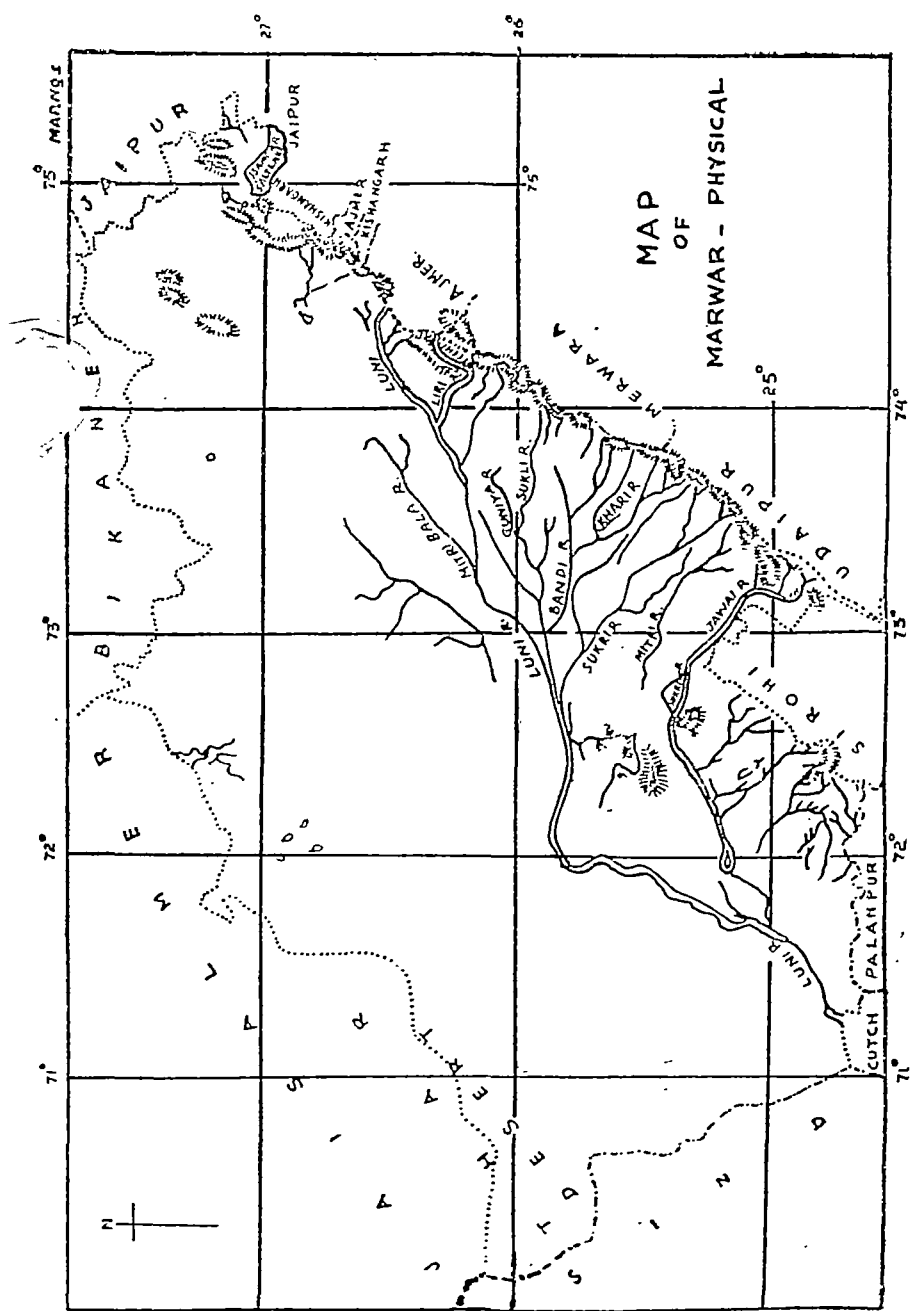
## A B B E R V I A T I O N S

AB.	: Arzee Bahi.
AITI PATREN.	: Aitihāsik Patren Yadi Wagaire Lekh.
A. R. M.	: Administrative Report of Marwar.
AKHBARAT	: Akhbarat-i-Darbar-i-Mualla.
BERNIER	: Travels in Mogul India.
BIB. IND.	: Bibliotheca Indica.
C. P. C.	: Calender of Persian Correspondence.
DILKUSHA	: Nuskah-i-Dilkusha.
DK.	: Dholian-Ka-Kothar Records.
DY	: Dilli Yethil Maratha- Yanchi Raj. Karne.
ELLIOT & DOWSON	: History of India as told by its own Historians.
F. P.	: Foreign Political Consultations.
F. R.	: Foreign Record.
F. S.	: Foreign Secret Consultations.
G. G.	: Governor General.
G.M.G.R.	: Glories of Marwar and Glorious Rathors.
HP.	: History papers regarding Mahadaji Sindia
H.S.I.S.	: Holkarshahicha Itihanchi Sadhane.
JD.	: Jodhpur Record.
JP.	: Jaipur Record.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

JY.	: Jodhpur Yethil Raj Karne.
KH.	: Kharita.
K.K. DATTA	: Survey of social life and Economic Conditions of India in 18th Century.
KS.	: Kapaddwara Section.
MD.	: Maheshwar Darbarachin Badami Patren.
MANUCCI	: Storia-do-Mogor
M. M.	: Martin Montgomery, Wellesley's Despatches.
N.H.M.	: New History of Marathas.
OOT.	: Ootacmand.
ORME	: Historical fragments of the Mughal Empire.
PF.	: Portfolio.
P.R.C.	: Poona Residency Correspondence.
PRDG.	: Proceedings.
R. A.	: Rajasthan Archives.
R. A. O.	: Rajputana Agency Office.
RAJWADE	: Marathanchya Itihasachin Sadhane.
RY.	: Regnal Year.
SABHASAD	: Shiva-Chhatrapati Charitren Bhakhar.
S.B.L.	: Sarswati Bhandar Library.
S.C.C.R.	: Selection from Chandrachud Record.
SE	: Saka Era.
SEIR	: Seir-Mutaqherin.
S.P.D.	: Selection from Peshwa Daftar.
S.P.D. (New-Series)	: Extension of Maratha Power.
S.S.I.S.	: Shindheshahi Itihasanchi Sadhane.
T.E.S.	: Treaties, Engagements and Sanads.

TOD.	: Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan.
UD.	: Udaipur Record.
VS.	: Vikram Samvat.
WHEELER J. Talboys	: Summary of the affairs of the Maratha state.
WILSON.	: Mill's history of British India.
I.H.C.	: Indian History Congress Proceedings.
I.H.R.C.	: Indian Historical Record Commission Proceedings.
J.B.R.S.	: Journal of Bihar Research Society.
J.I.H.	: <i>Journal of Indian History</i> .
BOMBAY GAZETTER:	Gazetteer of Bombay Presidency.
RAJ. GAZ.	: Rajputana Gazetteer.



# Introduction

On the eve of the Rathor penetration into Marwar in the first-half of the thirteenth century, Marwar, (as the territory was then understood) over which the last ruler Maharaja Hanut Singh ruled upto March 30 1949, was largely dominated by the Chauhans of Jalor. The ancient city of Mandvyapur (now known as Mandor) which had been the centre of political activity in Marwar, under the pratiharas,<sup>1</sup> since Naga Bhatta I (c. 730 A.D.) was then a Chauhan territory. Its occupation had always brought political prestige<sup>2</sup> and Military strength. It took more than a century for the Rathors to gain for themselves this capital city of the Pratiharas and ensure their future hold in Marwar.

With the decline of the Pratihara Empire at Kanauj (c. 942 A. D.), its territory of Central India and Southern part of Marwar passed into the hands of the Parmars in the eleventh Century. With the rise of the Chalukya power in Gujrat under Mool Raj I and Kumar Pala and its expansion in Southern Marwar, the Parmars survived only as dependents of the Chalukyas at Jalor upto 1181 A. D. and at Bhimmal upto 1216 A. D. The Chalukya possessions at Kiradu (in Barmer district) and in Godwad (South-East Marwar) continued upto 1239 A. D.<sup>4</sup>

- 
1. Dr. Dasrath Sharma : Early Chauhan Dynasties p. 148.
  2. The Rathors gained Mandor in 1324 A. D.
  3. The struggle for Empire (History and Culture of Indian People Vol. V) pp. 66-77.
  4. Ibid. pp. 73-74, 79-87.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

The Chauhans were the feudatories of the Imperial Pratiharas. By 973 A. D. they had become practically independent at Sakambhari (Sambhar). The growing power of the Chauhans under Vigrabhaja IV (1151-1163 A. D.) came in conflict with the Chalukayas under Kumar Pal for the possession of Nadol, Pali and Jalor. Under Prithvi Raj III (1180-1192) Mandor-Nagor territory was a Chauhan province. Another Chauhan dynasty at Nadol extended its supremacy over Mandor which, later on, changed hands and passed on to Uday Singh of Jalor.

The Kingdom of Jalor under Chohan Kirtipal was established in 1181 A. D. Under his grandson Uday Singh (1205-1257), the Kingdom of Jalor included Nadol, Jalor, Mandor, Badmer, Surchanda, Ratahrada, Kheda, Ramasairya, Srimala, Ratnapura, Saryapura etc. He was said to have curbed the pride of Turks. He was contemporary of Kutubuddin Aibk and Aram Shah, and came in conflict with Iltutmish. The latter was entangled in solving the problems in the North-West and in the Eastern part of his empire upto 1225. In the meantime Uday Singh had extended his sway over a large part of Rajputana and was pushing towards the Muslim seat of Ajmer. That brought Iltutmish on Jalor. Uday Singh surrendered and paid the token tribute worth 100 camels and 200 horses and the territory of Mandor. In 1221 Iltutmish once again took the offensive in Rajasthan and advanced towards Gujrat. Uday Singh and Baghelas of Gujrat forced him to withdraw without fighting. Uday Singh recaptured Mandor only to lose to Iltutmish once more in 1226.

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1. Early Chauhan Dynasties pp. 58, 77, 148.

2. Ibid. pp. 144, 148, 151, 152.

In 1244 A. D. Sultan Masud made Kashli Khan Governor of Mandor, Nagor and Ajmer.<sup>1</sup> However we find Mandor listed in V. 1319 (1262 A. D.) as one of the possessions of Udai Singh.<sup>2</sup> The Chauhans of Jalor were the unrivalled masters of Southern Marwar, including Mandor, upto 1291, when the first Khilji<sup>2</sup> Sultan, Jalaluddin occupied Mandor and marched upto Sanchor.<sup>3</sup> This muslim invasion awakened the Jalor ruler Sawant Singh to the need of reorganising the defence of his territory. In 1296 he associated his son Kanhad Deo in the task of looking after the administration of his empire.<sup>4</sup> Frontier forts were regarrisoned, repaired and put under able generals. Mandor, which remained under the Khiljis upto 1301 A. D.<sup>5</sup> was reoccupied and Inda-Parihars were made guardians of the fort.<sup>6</sup> The Jalor Empire under Kanhad Deo and the Khilji Empire under Allauddin Khilji were bound to come in conflict. In 1308 the Khiljis occupied Mandor, Sanchor and Sivana. The next invasion was on Kanhad Deo in 1311 A. D. with the defeat of the latter the Chauhan Empire disintegrated.<sup>7</sup>

The Rathor penetration in Marwar began with the overthrow of the Rajput rule over the Gangetic-Jamuna Doab, surrounding Kanauj, by Iltutmish. Siha, the ancestor of the Rathors of Marwar was said to have moved west from his

- 
1. Habibullah : Foundations of Muslim Rule in India pp. 124.
  2. Early Chauhan Dynasties p. 152. Dr. Nasrath Sharma is of the opinion that Udai Singh must have recaptured it during the period V. 1283-1314 (1226-57 A.D.).
  3. Ibid. 159.
  4. Ibid.
  5. K. S. Lall : History of the Khiljis. p. 116.
  6. Asopa : Marwar Ka Mool Itihas p. 22.
  7. Early Chauhan Dynasties pp. 167-169; according to Dr Sharma Jalor fell in vs. 1371 (1314 A.D.) some time after the 10th of the dark-half of Jyestha (Ibid p. 170 ff. 60)



## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

original home in the vicinity of Badayun in between 1226-1234 A. D.<sup>1</sup> He and his son Ashthan employed themselves in the pay of the commercial community of Bhinmal and Pali, the then business and trading centres under the Chauhans of Jalor.<sup>2</sup> The historians viz. Nensi, Tod, Ozha, Reu, Asopa, Gahlot, agree that Ashthan occupied Khed, an important town in the Chauhan Empire. However, no contemporary or semi-contemporary sources have thrown any light on it. It appears that the Rathors were not a political force, when Allauddin attacked Siwana and Jalor. Had it been so, the Khilji Sultan would not have left the Rathors of Khed (which was so near Siwana) an independent power and the fact would not have escaped notice by contemporary chroniclers. The Rajput historians also refer that Ashthan was at Pali and died fighting against Jalaluddin in 1291.<sup>3</sup>

The Rathors gained a favourable opportunity of political rise only after 1314, when Kanhad Deo died and his empire disintegrated. The new map of Marwar was something like this. Jalor became a seat of the Khiljis.<sup>4</sup> Nagor, too, went under the muslim rule. Mandor was lost to the Khiljis<sup>5</sup> and

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1. According to G. H. Ozha, he moved from Badayun in 1196 A. D. (Jodhpur Itihas Vol. I p. 146)  
R. K. Asopa refers his departure from Mahvi in 1234 A. D. (p.49) Cunningham (Archaeological Survey report Vol. III p. 123) dates it in 1226 A.D.
  2. Nensi mentions that Siha tried his luck in Gujrat by joining the Chaudas against Lakha Phulani but returned to Kanauj (Khyat Vol. ii pp. 267-274)
  3. Jodhpur-Khyat Vol. I p. 19;  
Banki Das: Aitihāsik Varta No. 1615.  
Early Chauhan Dynasties p. 159. Khed was under Kanhad Deo.
  4. Ozha. Jodhpur Itihas Vol. I p. 173.
  5. K. S. Lal. History of Khiljis p. 116.
  6. Ibid,

**(B) Jasvant Singh and Shivaji**

With the recall of Shayista Khan, the responsibility of maintaining Mughal authority rested on Jasvant Singh. The Maharaja immediately laid siege of the fort of Kondhana, which was regarded as the strong-hold of the Maratha power. The first attack on the fort was made by Sunder Das on March 15, 1664. The Rathors failed to dislodge the Maratha position and lost twenty of their men. A month later, on April 13, the Rathors tried to wipe out the rampart of the fort by mining the wall. It made only a hundred yards hole in the wall, causing the death of fifty to sixty Maratha soldiers. However, the invaders failed to enter the fort. On May 6, another mine exploded and it caused a great loss to the rampart. Seven hundred Rathors unscaled the wall of the fort. A fierce battle followed resulting in a heavy loss to both the parties. A week later, another skirmish took place with no gains to the either side. As the rains had set in and the fall of Kondhana was not in sight, the Maharaja raised the seige on June 1, and withdrew to Poona. During the rainy season, the Maharaja made Poona his headquarters. As such he sent Pancholi Keshri Singh to Aurangabad with an army of 2,100 to bring his family. On return journey, the party was attacked by a roaming Maratha squad with the object of taking the bullocks of the carriages. The Rathors gave a tough fight. Consequently the Marathas had to flee.<sup>1</sup>

As the condition of the Deccan was not being handled in the manner the Emperor liked, hence he recalled Jasvant Singh<sup>2</sup> The Maharaja left the Deccan on October 16, 1664

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1. Alamgirnama p. 867; Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii p. 177; Dilkusha Vol. I p. 47; Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 166, vv: 163; Mundiyad Khyat (Jasvant Singh) p. 231, 234, 235; Jedhe Sakavali under reference of the year SE, 1585, Margasirsha and SE. 1586 Jyeshtha.
  2. Fatuhat-i-Alamgiri 52a; Maasir-i-Alamgiri 18 a-b; Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 167, vv. 264.

and reached Delhi on May 14, 1665.<sup>1</sup> Asad Khan received him at the gates of the fort. The Emperor embraced him when he presented himself in the court and honoured him with a *khillat* and a jewelled dagger.<sup>2</sup>

On the occasion of the Emperor's Fiftieth-birthday celebrations on May 12, 1666, Jasvant Singh was one of the recipients of the Royal favour along with the Princes and Wazir Zafar Khan.<sup>3</sup> At that time Shivaji was present in the court, standing in the rank of the officers, enjoying a *mansab* of five thousand.<sup>4</sup> At the bestowing of the Royal favour to Jasvant Singh, who had been responsible for the Maratha losses in the Deccan, Shivaji was provoked and openly protested in the court against such a policy of indiscrimination.<sup>5</sup> He could not be pacified to maintain the court discipline and was ultimately put under detention under the direct responsibility of Ram Singh, the son of Jay Singh of Amber.<sup>6</sup>

Shivaji's behaviour was unprecedented. He had challenged the Imperial authority openly in the court.<sup>7</sup> Jasvant Singh, supported by Zafar Khan and *Begum Sahiba* (The

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1. Alamgirnama p. 884 ; *Maasir-i-Alamgiri* 19 a ; Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 167, vv. 265-266 ; Mundiya Khyat (Jasvant Singh) pp. 246-247.

2. Alamgirnama p. 884 ; Marwar Khyat Vol. I p. 236.

3. A Report from Parkal Das to Dewan Kalyan Das dated 7th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1723/15th May, 1666. (Vakil Report) JP ; Alamgirnama pp. 961-963.

4. A Report from Parkal Das to Dewan Kalyan Das dated 7th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1723/15th May, 1666 (Vakil Report) JP.

5. Ibid.

6. Ibid.

Alamgirnama p. 969 ;  
Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii pp. 189-190.

7. A Report from Parkal Das to Dewan Kalyan Das dated 7th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1723/15th May, 1666 (Vakil Report) JP.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

Emperor's sister, Jahanara) advised the Emperor on May to censure severely such an attitude of Shivaji otherwise, 'If it, every *Bhomia* shall come here and exhibit such a behavior with impunity and the whole administration shall suffer having its repercussions throughout the Empire.'<sup>1</sup> Acting upon this, the Emperor decided 'either to put Shivaji to death or to confine him in the fort.'<sup>2</sup> However, despite the measures against him being tightened, Shivaji secured his release with a forged *farman* in August, 1666, and hurried to the Deccan.<sup>3</sup> The Emperor deputed Jasvant Singh and Prince Muazzam in March, 1667, to pursue Shivaji and his son.<sup>4</sup>

Accordingly Jasvant Singh and Prince Muazzam reached Burhanpur on May 12, 1667, and Aurangabad on May 20 to take rigorous measures against Shivaji,<sup>5</sup> who, by this time was busy in reorganising his state on a proper footing after his return from Agra<sup>6</sup>. The letters sent by him, in April, August and September, 1667, indicate that the Imperial force despatched by the Emperor against him created terror among

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1. Ibid--dated 8th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1723/16th May 1666: (Vakil Report) JP.

2. Ibid:

3. A Report from Baloo Kani to Dewan Kalyan Das dated 7th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1723/26th August, 1666. (Vakil Report) JP.

4. A Report from Baloo Shah to Dewan Kalyan Das dated 13th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1724/27th March, 1667. (Vakil Report) JP.

Akhbarat dated 29th Shawwal 10 Ry /14th April, 1667 JP.

Maasir-i-Alamgiri 23b,

Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii p. 207.

5. Akhbarat dated 11th Zi-l-hijja 10 Ry, 21st June 1667 JP.

Akhbarat dated 9th Muharram 10 Ry/21st June 1667 JP.

Alamgirnama p. 1037;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. I pp. 240-241

the Marathas.<sup>1</sup> Shivaji, being busy with his internal affairs was not in a position to defend himself. He sent overtures to Jasvant Singh for an alliance with the Mughal Emperor.<sup>2</sup> The proposal was acceptable to Jasvant Singh, firstly, because he had not established himself firmly in the Deccan and secondly, he was soon expecting Dilir Khan, an enemy of the Prince Muazzam and himself, as his co-worker in the South.<sup>3</sup> He, then, sent Govind Rai and Ranchod Das to Shivaji on September 20, 1667, to discuss and finalise the terms of peace.<sup>4</sup> As a result of the consultations and deliberations, certain decisions were recommended as proposals for approval to the Emperor by Jasvant Singh and Muazzam.<sup>5</sup> The proposals<sup>6</sup> were :

1. Shivaji will spare a Maratha contingent to be kept at Aurangabad for Mughal service.

2. Shivaji will receive the title of the Raja. He shall have the right to collect *desmukhi* in the Mughal territory.

3. His son, Shambhuji will receive a *mansab*.

4. *Jagirs* shall be assigned to Shivaji.

When the Emperor received these proposals he did not approve them in toto but agreed to create Shambhuji a Comm-

1. Akhbarat dated 22nd Zi-l-kada, 11th Rabi-ul-awwal and 24th Rabi-ul-akhir of 10th Ry/6th May; 21st August and 3rd Oct. 1667. JP, Dilkusha vol. I pp. 69-71  
Sabhasad. 58-71
2. Akhbarat dated 24th Rabi-ul-akhir 10 Ry/3rd Oct. 1667 JP, Dilkusha Vol. I pp. 69-70.
3. Dilkusha Vol I pp. 66-68
4. Marwar Khyat Vol. I p. 241
5. Akhbarat dated 24th Rabi-ul-akhir 10 Ry/3rd Oct., 1667 JP,
6. Akhbarat dated 11th Rabi-ul-awwal 10 Ry/21st Aug. 1667 and dated 24th Rabi-ul akhir 10 Ry/3rd Oct.; 1667 JP, Dilkusha. Vol. I pp. 69-71

ander of five thousand, assign *jagirs* to him in Berar and he further informed that the other recommendations were under consideration. Agreeing to these, Shivaji sent his son Shambhuji to Jasvant Singh, whom he met on October, 28. He next met the Prince Muazzam on November 4, 1667. He was allowed to return the next day.<sup>2</sup> He was created a *Panchhazari* and a *jagir* was given to Shivaji in Berar.<sup>3</sup> On March 9, 1668, the Prince communicated to Shivaji that the Emperor had granted him the title of the Raja.<sup>4</sup> However the Emperor insisted that Shivaji should send a contingent of troops to the Prince.<sup>5</sup> Thereupon, in August, 1668, Shivaji sent a Maratha contingent under Pratap Rao and Niraji Raoji, half of which attended the Prince at Aurangabad and half was sent to Berar.<sup>6</sup> Shivaji utilised the period of rull (1667-1669) in introducing many administrative changes in his domain. He also began to recruit the disbanded Mughal soldiery in his army. By the end of 1669, when he had made adequate preparations, he recalled his contingent from Aurangabad and Berar. He recommenced his aggression upon the Mughal territory in all directions. The Emperor, in order to strengthen the hands of Jasvant Singh and Muazzam, sent Dilir Khan on January 26, 1670. to Aurangabad. When the Imperial general was proceeding against the enemy, instead of helping him, Jasvant Singh and Muzzam pursued him

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1. Akhdarat dated 24th Rabi-ul-akhir 10 Ry./3rd Oct., 1667. JP,

2. Jedhe Sakivali under reference of the year 1589, Kartika Krishna 6th to 13th.

3. Dilkusha Vol. I p 70

4. Nishan from Muazzam to Shivaji dated 5th Shawwal 11 Ry./9th March 1668.

5. Akhbarat dated 24th Rabi-ul-akhir 10 Ry./3rd Oct., 1667 JP.

6. Dilkusha. Vol. Ip. 70; Sabhasad. 61.

upto Tapti. The entire affair assumed the shape of a civil strife.<sup>1</sup>

The Mughal Emperor was not happy over the turn of events. He must have suspected that the friendly relations between the Mughals and the Marathas during proceeding years had led to the close contacts among Shivaji, Jasvant Singh and Prince Muazzam. Moreover, the Emperor feared that the rupture between Dillir Khan on one side and Jaswant Singh-Muazzam on the other side might also take an adverse turn to menace the Imperial power.<sup>2</sup> Hence he separated Jasvant Singh from Muazzam in September, 1670. For some time he was asked to stay at Burhanpur, as to check the advance of Shivaji to that side.<sup>3</sup> A sum of rupees two to three lacs was also allotted to him for the purpose.<sup>4</sup> He was instructed to act in co-operation with Mahabat Khan.<sup>5</sup> In the following year, he was sent to Gujrat.<sup>6</sup> Later on in the same year he was transferred to Jamrud,<sup>7</sup> where he died on December 10, 1678.<sup>8</sup>

1. Dilkusha. Vol. I p. 64-71;  
Akhbarat 12 Ry.;  
Sabhasad. 27-33, 68;  
Jedhe Sakavali, under reference of the year 1591 Sravana
2. Dilkusha. Vol. I p. 101;  
Sabhasad. 62;  
Orme, pp. 195-196.
3. A letter from S. Master to the President and Council, Surat Factory, dated 19th December, 1670. F.R. Surat; Vol. 105 p. 90.
4. Ibid.
5. Original correspondence Vol. 31. No. 3547. Surat to Bombay dated 28th January 1671. (Quoted in English Recordson Shivaji p. 180.)
6. Fatuhat-i-Alamgiri 60b;  
Dilkusha Vol. I p. 101;  
Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. I p. 276
7. Maasir-i-Alamgiri, p. 109.
8. Maasir-i-Alamgiri p. 171;  
Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol ii p. 259.

The peace manoeuvres of Shivaji were a diplomatic move to gain time to reorganise his state and the army. Jasvant Singh failed to understand it. On account of this the interest of the Mughals during the period 1667-1670 suffered a setback. The mutual jealousies of Jasvant Singh and Dillir Khan were also detrimental to the Mughal prestige. Their negligence to the immediate danger made Shivaji strong and formidable. That is why Aurangzib had to take stern action and separate the Rathor-Muazzam clique. The march of events of the period suggests that no tangible results were attained by the Imperial generals.

### (C) The Rathor war and Shambhuji

On hearing the news of the death of Jasvant Singh at Jamrud in December, 1679, Aurangzib put the state of Marwar under the Imperial administration early in 1679. He came to know at Ajmer on February 26; that two posthumous sons had been born to the *Ranis* of Jasvant Singh at Lahore seven days earlier. He directed the Rathor party, which was carrying the Princes and which had left Jamrud after their ruler's death, to proceed to Delhi, where it reached with only one Prince Ajit Singh in June, 1679. The Emperor lodged the Prince at Nurgarh for some time. Scenting some adverse changes by the Emperor, Ajit Singh's escape was arranged by Durga Das in July, 1679. He was safely carried to Marwar. A Rathor-Sisodia alliance was formed to resist the Mughal hold on Marwar. Aurangzib deputed his son, Akbar to crush the Rathors, but he, with the support of the Rathors led by Durga Das, revolted against his father and established a government of his own at Nadol on January 3, 1681. After the death of Maharana Raj Singh in October, 1680, the Sisodias entered into a peace treaty with the Mughals, but the Rathors continued their movement. In order to give a new turn to the struggle Durga Das decided



to court the Maratha support for the rebel Prince and Ajit-Singh.<sup>1</sup>

The Rajputs, suspecting Aurangzib's contrivance arranged with Akbar, left him alone on the eve of his attack on Deorai, four miles south of Ajmer, where the Emperor was staying in January, 1681.<sup>2</sup> But Durga Das took up the cause of Akbar and immediately tried to find out a safer place of asylum for the Prince. He at once took up the route towards the South. Crossing Jhadol, Chappan, Salumber he went to Dungarpur. From there he wanted to go towards Ahmadabad via Banswara but finding the route obstructed, he took the route towards Swarnagarh. Rajpipla for which he crossed the Narbada near Akbarpur on May 9, and pushing through Khandesh, Baglana and Konkan entered into the Maratha territory at Rahiri on June 1.<sup>3</sup> Durga Das and Akbar were stationed at Pali (later on

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1. *Maasir-i-Alamgiri*. 172, 173, 176-178, 180, 193-194, 196-198, 207-208;  
*Fatuh-at-i-Alamgiri*. 72b, 73b, 76a-b; 77a-b, 80a-83b;  
*Muntakhab-ul-Lubab*. Vol. ii pp. 255-270;  
*Seir*. Vol. iv p. 152;  
*Ajitodaya*. Canto vi. vv. 1-4, 27-26, 66, 91-93; Canto xi vv. 4-7, 24-25;  
*Ajit Granth*. vv. 331, 537, 614, 1486-1487;  
*Raj Rupak*. Prakash ii vv. 11.p.26; vv.30 p.30, prakash vii vv.7. p. 92;  
G.N. Sharma. *Mewar and the Mughals* pp. 169 & 180.  
Nadol is 25°22' N 73°27' E, about eight miles from Javlia station;
  2. *Muntakhab-ul-Lubab*. Vol. ii pp. 269-270.
  3. *Maasir-i-Alamgiri* pp. 203-206;  
*Muntakhab-ul-Lubab* Vol. ii pp. 275-277; (Gives a different route Via Punjab)  
*Fatuh-at-i-Alamgiri* 83b;  
Jedhe Sakavali under reference of the year 1603 Jyeshtha;  
*Ajit Granth* vv. 630, vv. 1425-1425;  
Orme p. 104;  
Jhadol is about 22 miles S.W. of Udaipur.  
Chappan is a valley tract south of Udaipur.  
Salumber is 24°9' N 74°3, E; about 40 miles S. E. of Udaipur

named as Patshahpur) with 800 Rajputs.<sup>1</sup> Aurangzib feared of Rathor-Maratha alliance and as such his attention was then diverted immediately towards the south in order to thwart the plan of Durga Das.

Aurangzib left Ajmer in September, 1681<sup>2</sup> in order to concentrate the military resources of the Empire in the Deccan under his personal command. He reached Burhanpur in November, 1681.<sup>3</sup> The coming of the Emperor to the South served the purpose of Durga Das in a way that the Mughal pressure was lessened and the attention of the Emperor was diverted to the South, thus giving the opportunity to the Rathors to make preparations for the resistance, which they could arrange with device and understanding.<sup>4</sup>

Durga Das attempted to secure the Maratha help for the Rathor cause also. At first Shambhuji doubted the intentions of the parleys conveyed by him (DurgaDas).<sup>5</sup> But the people of Maharastra responded to the presence of Akbar and the Rathor and it was "in everybody's mouth on the main that

Dungarpur is 23°51' N 73°48' E, about 66 miles S. E. of Udaipur.

Banswara is 23°33' N 74°27' E, about 42 miles N. W. of Ratlam.

Rajpipla track is in between 21°23'-21°59' N to 73°5'-70°0' E, lying south of Songarh in the lap of the rivers Narbada and Tapti.

Akbarpur is in the south of Mandu 3 miles west of Maheshwara.

Baglana is north sub-division of Nasik district lying on N. W. of Khandesh.

Rahiri is in Ratangarh district of Maharastra State at 15°45' N 73°44' E, about 225 miles S.E. of Bombay.

1. Akhbarat dated 11th Shaban 24 Ry. 17th Aug. 1681; JP; Seir. Vol. iv p. 163, Orme. p. 104. Pali is Paligarh. 25 miles from Raigarh.
2. Maasir-i-Alamgiri p. 76b.
3. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii p. 273.
4. Ajitodaya. Canto xii.
5. Ajitodaya. Canto xi vv 27.

Ranah (Durga Das) and Sambagee Rajah do resolve to join all their forces and endeavour to make him (Echer) king."<sup>1</sup> Within a short time Durga Das was able to collect a Maratha soldiery even without the support of Shambhuji.<sup>2</sup> It was not liked by the Maratha king, who advised Akbar and Durga Das to abandon such activities.<sup>3</sup> To meet their needs, a jagir was allotted to them.<sup>4</sup> However, this half-hearted attitude of Shambhuji was short-lived. Durga Das was able to win Shambhuji's confidence by disclosing of a murder conspiracy against him, organised by Annaji Datto in September, 1681.<sup>5</sup> The services of Kavi Kalash, the favourite of Shambhuji were also requisitioned by Durga Das to win Shambhuji on his side.<sup>6</sup> On Sunday, November 13, 1681, the Maratha chief met Durga Das and Akbar at Patshahpur. We do not know the details of the meeting but the subsequent events suggest that the meeting concluded with a plan of the support of Shambhuji for both Akbar and the Rathors. Shambhuji promised to spare 30,000 army to take Akbar towards the North.<sup>8</sup> The Rathor and the

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1. Orme. p. 270.

2. Akkbarat dated 11th Shaban Ry. 24/16th Aug. 1681. JP; Orme. p. 105.

3. Akkbarat dated 11th Shaban Ry. 24/16th Aug. 1681. JP.

4. Ibid; ;

Seir, Vol. iv p. 153

Orme. P. 270, It states that earlier months of their arrival Durga Das had to meet their needs with the jewels brought by Akbar with him.

5. Orme. p. 105.

6. Ajitodaya. Canto. xi. vv. 27.

7. Jedhe Sakavali under reference of the year 1603, Karttika Shukla 13; Ajitodaya. Canto xi vv. 28; it describes the welcome given by Shambhuji to Rathor Durga Das and Akbar. Ajit Granth vv. 1425-1427

8. Orme : pp. 105-106.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

Prince supported him against the Sidis of Janjira in December, 1681<sup>1</sup> with the hope that the success over the Sidis would free Shambhuji to divert his resources in their support against the Emperor. However the arrival of the Emperor in the Deccan made Shambhuji and Akbar return immediately to Rajgarh in January, 1682, leaving the siege of Janjira unfinished.<sup>2</sup>

In the middle of February, hearing that Akbar had made plans to go to Jodhpur, the Emperor proceeded towards Aurangabad.<sup>3</sup> On March 22, 1682, he took post there "to give Akbar no opportunity of undertaking any notable enterprise"<sup>4</sup>

The Marathas and their northern allies began preparations for an action. In order to make his position strong, Akbar wrote to Raja Ram Singh of Amber on May 22, 1682, to join him.<sup>5</sup> Shambhuji also requested him for military and financial aid for the Rathor and Akbar.<sup>6</sup> The Kachhwaha chief, thinking it unwise on his part to oppose the Emperor at that time, sent a refusal.<sup>7</sup> However, Shambhuji suggested to the Raja of Jaipur for help to Durga Das and Akbar proceeding towards the North.<sup>8</sup> As soon as the rains were over, according to the plan Durga Das and Akbar marched towards Gujrat taking

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1. Ibid, pp. 109-110.

2. Ibid p. 110.

3. A Report (Persian) from Kanwal Sain to Maharaja Jaipur dated 15th Safar 25 Ry/13th Feb. 1682 (Vakil Report) JP.

4. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii p. 279;  
Ajit Granth vv. 1417-1418.

5. A letter from Akbar to Ram Singh dated 24th Jammd'al-Awwal 1093 H/22nd May 1682. JP.

6. Sanskrit letters from Shambhuji to Ram Singh of Jaipur. (undated) letter No. (S.) 123 and 125. JP.

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid.

## THE RATHOR WAR AND SHAMBHUJI

with them a Maratha contingent under Ganpati, son of Kavi Kalash and Dhanaji Jadav.<sup>1</sup> In October, the Rathors captured Ahmadabad.<sup>2</sup> It alarmed Aurangzib, who decided to proceed towards Ahmadabad in person and stay there at least for ten days.<sup>3</sup> But leaving Shah Alam in charge of the affairs, he returned immediately to his head-quarters.<sup>4</sup> He deputed another force under Prince Muizz-ud-Din to march from Ahmadnagar to Nander and Bidar to pursue the Marathas coming to Akbar's help.<sup>5</sup> Fearing little chances of success, the Rathors submitted a proposal for peace in May, 1683, that they were prepared to help the Mughals, if the governorship of Ahmadabad was granted to Akbar but it was rejected by the Emperor.<sup>6</sup> Nawab Mukarrab Khan defeated the combined Rathor-Maratha forces at Ahmadabad,<sup>7</sup> forcing Durga Das and the Prince to flee back to Shambhuji.<sup>8</sup>

The defeat was a great set-back to Akbar. He made up his mind to leave India for he was now convinced of the weak-

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1. The Report (Persian) from Kanwal Sain to Maharaja Jaipur dated 29th Shawwal 25 Ry./21st Oct. 682. (Vakil Report) Jp; Ajitodaya. Canto xiii vv. 1-2; Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p 50.
  2. A Report (Persian) from Kanwal Sain to Maharaja Jaipur dated 17th Zi-kada 25 Ry./7th Nov. 682. (Vakil Report) JP.
  3. Ibid dated 11th Zi-l-k'ada 26 Ry./1st Nov. 1682.
  4. Ibid dated 17th Zi-l-ka'da 26 Ry./7th Nov. 1682.
  5. Maasir-i-Alamgiri p. 224;
  6. A Report (Persian) from Kanwal Sain to Maharaja Jaipur dated 17th Jammdal-akhir 26 Ry./4th May 983. (Vakil Report) JP.
  7. Ajitodaya. Canto xiii vv. 3.
  8. Ibid. vv, 6-8.

ness of Shambhuji's alliance.<sup>1</sup> However, in November, 1683, Durga Das and Kavi Kalash prevailed upon him to stay.<sup>2</sup> In the meantime, attempts were also made by some Mughal courtiers to bring Akbar back to the Mughal camp with offers of pardon and restoration to favour.<sup>3</sup> But nothing came of these negotiations.<sup>4</sup> All their (Durga Das and Akbar) efforts to reach the North and establish their hold there with the support of the Marathas in the years 1684 to 1686 failed. By this time the Emperor had completed the Bijapur campaign with success. Akbar, fearing a rigorous measure against him, left for Persia in February, 1687,<sup>5</sup> probably either to gain the support of the Shah or to seek safe asylum there. Durga Das also left for Marwar after it.<sup>6</sup>

The Deccan mission of Durga Das to gain support for the Rathors did not result in success. He stayed for six years in Maharashtra and gave active support to the Marhathas in their struggle against the Sidis, the Portuguese and the Mughals, yet he could not get any positive support from their chief. He was convinced that Shambhuji lacked both the personality and character to take up the Rathor cause. Shambhuji on his part did not fully recognise the value of the Rathor alliance. Moreover, he lacked the quality of leadership for opposing the Mug-

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1. Orme. pp: 123-125.

2. Ibid;

3. Manucci. *Storia-do-Mogor*  
vol. ii, pp, 258-259,

4. Ibid.

5. Jedhe Sakavali under reference of the year 1608 S.E, Phalgun; Orme : *Historical fragments of Mogul Empire* p. 292.

6, Ajitodaya. Canto xiii vv, 10-13;

Ajit Granth vv. 1428, 1503-1510;

The route taken by Durga Das was towards Javad, where he crossed the Narbada, then proceeded towards Malpura, Rewari, Rohtak, Mundana and then reached Marwar,

## THE RATHOR WAR AND SHAMBHUJI

hals in the North. The efforts to gain the Maratha support for the Rathor cause resulted in double tragedy: an exile for Akbar and the death of Shambhuji at the hands of the Mughals after his capture in 1689. However, it was a blessing to the Rathors. They got an opportunity to strengthen their local movement, for Marwar remained, during this period, undisturbed by any major Mughal inroads.

The return of Durga Das from the Deccan and the coming of Ajit Singh from his hideouts in 1687, stimulated the Rathor activity. They threatened Ajmer and other Mughal posts in Marwar, levied tax on the Mughal trade passing through their land to Gujrat and the Deccan in between 1690-1696.<sup>1</sup> The Emperor, finding it difficult to spare troops for campaign against the Rathors, in face of the Maratha successes in the Deccan in 1695-1696, agreed for peace with Durga Das and Ajit Singh in May, 1698, appointing Ajit Singh the *faujdar* of Jalor, Sanchor and Siwana and conferring on Durga Das a *mansab* of 3000.<sup>2</sup> Ajit Singh offered his services to the Emp-

1. *Fatuh-at-i-Alamgiri* 121a;

*Ajitodaya*. Canto xiii vv. 13-14; Canto xiv (Further resistance);

Canto xv, vv. 18-27;

*Ajit Granth* - pp. 315, 359, 405-408;

*Raj Rupak* : *Prakash* xvii, vv: 28 and 59, pp. 297 and 305.

2. *Maasir-i-Alamgiri* p. 395;

*Fatuh-at-i-Alamgiri* 167a-168b;

*Mirat-i-Ahmadi* Vol, I p. 338;

*Ajitodaya*, Canto xv, vv. 5,

*Raj Rupak*; *Prakash* xix, vv, 137-149 pp. 349-351.

Durga Das informed the Emperor that he was proceeding towards south with Ajit Singh for talks. In order

to avoid the possibility of a Rathor-Maratha league

again, if Durga Das came towards south, he the Emperor kept Jodhpur as the venue of settlement. (*Raj Rupak*; *Prakash* xiv. vv. 144

p. 350.) Jalor is 25°21' N 72°E, about 75 miles S. of Jodhpur,

Sanchor is 24°45' N 71°46' E, about 132 miles S, W, of Jodhpur;

Siwana is 25°38' N 72.26° E, about 60 miles S.W. of Jodhpur.

eror with 4,000 horse in October, 1700.<sup>1</sup> But the Maratha success after 1700 in the South encouraged the Rathors and they began to show the signs of severing the connections with the Mughals. Durga Das took up the arms in Gujrat in 1701-1702.<sup>2</sup> Ajit Singh put off his repeated calls from the Emperor under various reasons.<sup>3</sup> Both joined together and made attacks on the Mughals in Marwar. As the position of Aurangzib in the South was not secure,<sup>4</sup> he tried to keep the Rathors in good humour. He further granted concessions to them in 1705, by assigning Merta to Ajit Singh and restoring old *mansabs* to Durga Das.<sup>5</sup> The advance of the Marathas in Gujrat and the victory of Dhanaji Jadav at Ratanpur on March 15, 1706,<sup>6</sup> made the Emperor alive to the probable formation of a Rathor-Maratha alliance.<sup>7</sup> To avoid this possibility Aurangzib proposed<sup>8</sup> in January, 1707, that if Ajit Singh safeguarded the Imperial interests in Gujrat he was ready to grant him concessions in Marwar, as desired. But before the proposals were responded, Aurangzib died on March 3, 1707, giving Ajit Singh an opportunity to establish his hold on Jodhpur on March 12.<sup>9</sup>

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1. Akhbarat dated 15th Jammdal-akhir 45 Ry./16 Nov. 1700; JP,

2. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. I pp. 348-351,

3. Ibid, pp. 344-345,

4. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii pp. 521-527,

5. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. I p. 377

Merta is 26°39' N 74°2'E, 73 miles by rail N.E. of Jodhpur.

6. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii pp. 518-519;

Mirat i-Ahmadi Vol, I pp, 378-383.

Ratanpur is 21°24'N 73°26'E, about 14 miles. N. of Broach.

7. At this time Durga Das and Ajit Singh revolted again for the third time (Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. I pp. 390 and 394).

8. Akhbarat dated 7th Zi-l-kada 51 Ry./31st January 1707. JP,

9. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. I p 397

Ajitodaya. Canto xvii. vv. 11

Raj Rupak : Prakash xxii, vv. 16. p. 407.



The Rathor movement would not have gained impetus if the Marathas had not taken up arms against the Mughals. That drained all the resources of the Emperor. The simultaneous movements of the Marathas in the South and Rathors in the North from 1690 to 1707 had an adverse effect on the Mughal politics. The Emperor failed to subdue both the Marathas and the Rathors. A successful defiance of the Mughal authority accentuated the political crisis of the Mughal court, which hastened the fall of the Mughal Empire soon after the death of Aurangzib.

#### (D) Rathors and the Marathas under Shahu

After the death of Aurangzib, Sources are silent about Maratha-Rathor relations. It might be due to the fact that Ajit Singh was very busy from 1707 to 1710 in keeping the homeland free from Mughal domination.<sup>1</sup> However he entered into an alliance with Bahadur Shah in May, 1710,<sup>2</sup> and secured from Jahandar Shah the governorship of Gujrat in 1712.<sup>3</sup> Due to the growing influence of the Sayyid brothers at the Imperial court during the reign of Farrukhsiyar (1713-1719), he entered into close friendship with them and got confir-

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1. Ajitodaya. Canto xvii and xviii (full) xix. vv, 1-30
  2. A Farman of Bahadur Shah dated 4th Rabi-ul-akhir 1122H./9th May, 1710 (No., 3) JD;  
Akhbarat dated 24th Rabi-ul-akhir 4 Ry./11th June 1710, JP;  
Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii pp. 605-607;  
Ajitodaya. Canto xix (full);  
Seir. Vol. I, p. 67.
  3. Akhbarat dated 25th Shawwal 1 Ry./12th Nov. 1702;  
and dated 7th Zi-l-kada 1 Ry./25th Nov. 1712;  
A report (Rajasthani) from Jagjiwan to Maharaja of Jaipur dated 9th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha v.s. 1769/11th Nov. 1712.  
(Vakil Report) JP.

med in December 1714 his governorship of Gujrat,<sup>1</sup> where he remained till July 1717.<sup>2</sup> Soon after his release from Mughal captivity in May, 1707,<sup>3</sup> Shahu, on his part was also busy in a contest with Tarabai for his parental throne. From 1708 he took steps to solve the internal problems of his state. As such there was little occasion for direct Rathor-Maratha relations for common action. It seems that the relations were cordial as we find that when Ajit Singh was made the governor of Gujrat, he began a policy of safeguarding the Rathor interest there and annexing its border lands into Marwar<sup>4</sup> and that the Marathas, who were also immediate neighbours as their dominion extended as far as Surat under Khande Rao Dabhade,<sup>5</sup> did not come into any clash with the Rathors.

1. The Reports (Rajasthani) from Jagjiwan to Maharaja of Jaipur dated 5th day of the dark-half of Kartika vs. 1770/27th Sept., 1713; (it gives Ajit Singh's secret relation with the Sayyids); dated 1st day of the dark-half of Vaisaka vs. 1771/21st March 1714 (it mentions Husain Ali's march towards Marwar); dated bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1771 May 1714 (Ajit Singh entered into relation with Farrukhsiyar) and dated 9th day of bright-half of second Ashadha vs. 1771/10th July 1714 (Abhay Singh brought to the Mughal Court by Husain Ali), (Vakil Report), JP,  
The secret letters sent by Farrukhsiyar to Ajit Singh to murder Husain Ali, were shown by the Rathor Chief to Husain Ali. The latter secured for the former the Subahdari of Gujrat in 1714;  
Ajitodaya. Canto xx. vv. 29;  
Raj Rupak : Prakash xxvi vv. 43 p, 470, It mentions that Abhay Singh was appointed as governor of Gujrat (Wrong)
2. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol.ii p.12;  
Ajitodaya. Canto xxiv. vv.40;  
Marwar Khyat Vol.ii p.106.
3. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii p.582.
4. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol.ii pp.1-12 and pp.28-35;  
Ajitodaya. Canto xxii (full), xxiii vv. 1-35;  
Raj Rupak : Prakash xxvii vv. 1-28 pp.475-477, vv.1-42. pp.485-493.
5. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii pp.777-778,

## RATHORS AND THE MARATHAS UNDER SHAHU

The Emperor was not happy with the Sayyid brothers, who had strengthened their hold in the Imperial court with close association of Ajit Singh on one hand and by an alliance with the Marathas in February, 1718, on the other hand.<sup>1</sup> In order to break the power of the Sayyids, the Emperor recalled Ajit-Singh from Gujrat and conferred upon him great honours in August-September, 1718,<sup>2</sup> in the hope that he might not be the active participant with the Sayyids. However, Ajit Singh remained inclined towards Abdullah Khan, who, finding the court politics worsening and his position becoming precarious, called on his brother, Husain Ali along with the Marathas immediately in the North, as advised by Ajit Singh.<sup>3</sup> The Maratha force under Balaji Vishwanath carried Husain Ali to Delhi, where they encamped near the quarters of Ajit Singh on February 7, 1719.<sup>4</sup> Soon after Ajit Singh and Husain Ali took control of the Delhi fort and a Maratha force under Balaji Vishwanath was posted to defend it and crush any opposition which might

1. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii p.784;

Dr. A G. Powar's article 'Some Original Documents of Mughal-Maratha Relations'. I.H.R.C. proceedings (1940) pp.204-212.

2. A letter of Ajit Singh to Dayal Das dated 11th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1775/4th May 1719. Jd. Ibid. dated 8th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1775/22nd Aug., 1718. Jd.

A Kharita from Rana Sangram Singh to Ajit Singh dated 10th day of bright-half of Margasirsha vs. 1775/6th Nov. 1718. pf.No 2 Kh. 16. Jd. Muntakhal-ul-Lubab Vol.ii p.792 (it wrongly mentions that Ajit Singh was called from Ahmadabad. At that time he was at Jodhpur as is reported by the Author of *Mirat-i-Ahmadi* Vol. 11 p.12);

Ajitodaya. Canto xxvi. vv. 50;

Raj Rupak : Prakash xxxi. vv. 61-64. pp.508-509.

3. A letter from Ajit Singh to Dayal Das dated 11th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1775/4th May 1719. Jd.

4. Ibid;

Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii p.804.

immediate withdrawl of his allies forces from that place. But both Jay Singh and the Maharana refused to oblige him on the pretext that their withdrawl would bring fresh inroads on Idar and undo their work,<sup>1</sup>

Abhay Singh personally did not move from Jodhpur for he wanted the promised financial aid from the Emperor,<sup>2</sup> otherwise, he was prepared to spare only four to five hundred soldiers.<sup>3</sup> The offer was inadequate. The court's feelings were communicated to Abhay Singh by Jay Singh in his letter dated December 2, 1725,<sup>4</sup> telling him that if he was not prepared to move to Gujrat and spare 2,000 soldiers at least, serious consequence might follow.<sup>5</sup> Jai Singh also hinted that if the Maharaja took up the journey to Gujrat, the promised financial help would immediately follow.<sup>6</sup> Threatened by the consequences of delay and intimidated by the repeated pressure from Jai-Singh, Abhay Singh obeyed the Imperial orders. He set out for Gujrat on November 22, 1725,<sup>7</sup> taking the route through Jalor.<sup>8</sup> The charge of the Jodhpur administration was entrus-

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1. Ibid. Jay Singh had suggested to the Maharaja that Idar might be sold to the Maharana of Udaipur in return of a cash payment. (Ibid)

2. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs 1782/25th Nov. 1725; R.A. JP. Rc.

3. Ibid-dated 8th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1782/2nd Dec. 1725. Jp.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

The Emperor called Inder Singh in order to rebestow him the territory of Nagor and expressed his desire to call Anand Singh to the Imperial court so that he might be recognised as the ruler of Jodhpur. The court favoured the feelings of the Emperor.

6. Ibid. dated 3rd day of the bright-half of Margasirsha vs. 1782/26th Nov. 1725. Jp.

7. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 12th day of the dark-half of Pausha vs. 1782/20th Dec. 1725. Jp

8. Ibid-dated 11th day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1782/3rd Jan. 1726. Jp.

ted to Bakht Singh and *Dewan* Raghunath Rai<sup>1</sup>. Hardly had he reached Jalor, when he received the news that Anand Singh had entered into marriage negotiations with the Marathas and was securing their help to occupy Jodhpur.<sup>2</sup> Consequently he dropped the idea of proceeding further and informed Jay Singh accordingly.<sup>3</sup>

The two brothers made an attempt to gain Idar for themselves. So, their Maratha allies began to onslaught Idar in the middle of 1725.<sup>4</sup> Though they failed<sup>5</sup> to dislodge the Rathor hold on the territory, yet their regular incursions ruined all sources of revenue from that side for the Maharaja.<sup>6</sup> In March, 1726, the two brothers and their allies made preparation to make a dash towards Jodhpur.<sup>7</sup> Abhay Singh saw the danger of Maratha penetration into his patrimony. Hence, he informed the Emperor through Jay Singh that the gravity of the situation in Marwar required his presence there, and that he would use all his resources to keep the Marathas beyond his territories.<sup>8</sup> The Emperor, realising the change of situation in Marwar, relieved Abhay Singh from the responsibility of Gujrat affairs

1. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Jay Singh dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1782/9th March 1726 Jp.
2. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Jay Singh dated 10th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1782/31st March, 1726 Jp.
3. Ibid.
4. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 4th day of the bright-half of Asvina vs. 1782 Sept. 29, 1725 Jp.
5. Ibid.
6. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Jay Singh dated 9th day of the bright-half of Asvina vs. 1783 Sept. 23, 1726. Jp.
7. Ibid-10th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1782 March 31, 1726. Jp.
8. Ibid.

## FAMILY FEUD AND ABHAY SINGH

for the time being<sup>1</sup> An attempt by Jay Singh to reconcile the brothers and chiefs by a suggestion to allot some *Jagirs* to them in Abhay Singh's territory did not bear fruit.<sup>2</sup> Abhay Singh was prepared to hand over the *Jagir* (Idar) to Maharana on condition that the ruler of Udaipur would get both the brothers-Anand Singh and Rai Singh murdered.<sup>3</sup> He repeated his assurances to make a common cause with the Maharana against the Marathas,<sup>4</sup> who threatened the Rana's territory again in 1726.<sup>5</sup> Though the Rana established his hold on Idar he failed to lay hands on the two brothers.<sup>6</sup> They made their headway towards Marwar through Sirohi, where they began to devastate the territory belonging to the Maharana also.<sup>7</sup> The Maharaja deputed Bakht Singh to defend the frontiers, in case the rebels crossed it. He also instructed him to join the Sisodia forces, if they came to suppress rebels in

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1. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 11th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs 1783/August 12, 1726: Jp.

A Kharita from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 11th day of the bright-half of Asvina vs: 1783/Sept. 11, 1726. Jp.

2. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 4th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1783/6th Aug. 1726. R.A., Jp. Rec.

3. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Jay Singh dated 7th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1783/31st May 1727. (Quoted in Veer Vinod Vol. ii p. 969).

4. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Asvina vs. 1783/3rd Sept, 1726. R.A. Jp. Rec;

A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Maharana of Udaipur dated 4th day of the dark-half of Karttika vs. 1783/4th Oct. 1726; R.A , Jp. Rec.

5. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Asvina vs. 1783/3rd Sep. 1726. R.A., Jp. Rec.

6. A Kharita (draft) from Maharana Sangram Singh to Abhay Singh dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1784/25th June 1727. R.A., Jd. Rec. Pf. No 3 file No. 2.

7. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Jay Singh dated 4th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1784/26th June 1727. R.A., Jp. Rec.

Sirohi.<sup>1</sup> Though the Maharana assured Abhay Singh that he would see that they did not proceed further,<sup>2</sup> he entertained overtures from Anand Singh<sup>3</sup> for a compromise. Abhay Singh did not like the move of the Maharana but when in 1728 Kanthaji and Pilaji invaded Marwar and looted the district of Jalor, he decided to purchase peace.<sup>4</sup> Bhandari Khimvsi was sent to negotiate with the two Maratha leaders. He was successful in making them withdraw from Jalor.<sup>5</sup> At the same time, on the advice from Jay Singh he agreed to close down the long struggle with his brothers by agreeing to his proposal in August, 1728, that Idar as a *Jagir* might be given to them.<sup>6</sup>

### (B) Abhay Singh and his Subahdari of Gujrat

Sarbuland Khan's position in Gujrat was not stable. The expected help from Abhay Singh did not reach him. This made his position more precarious against the onslaughts of the Marathas under Pilaji and Kanthaji Bande.<sup>7</sup> It resulted in his capitulation to the Marathas in February, 1727, by which he granted the *chauth* for the *Subah*, previously assigned by Hamid Khan to Kanthaji Bande and Pilaji Gaikwar. In 1730

1. Ibid.
2. A Kharita from Sangram Singh to Abhay Singh, dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Karttika vs. 1784/21st Sept 1727. R.A., Jd. Rec. Pf, No. 3 file No. 2.
3. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Maharana of Udaipur dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1785/10th Aug. 1728; Ud.
4. Marwar Khyat vol. ii p. 131.
5. Ibid.
6. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Maharana of Udaipur dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1785/Aug. 10, 1728.
7. A Kharita from Jay Singh to Maharana Sangram Singh dated 13th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1785/22nd Aug. 1728, Ud.
7. S.P.D. xxx 312

## ABHAY SINGH AND HIS SUBAHDARI OF GUJRAT

he again signed a pact with Chimnaji Appa by which *chauth* and *sardeshmukhi* were assigned to the Peshwa.<sup>1</sup>

The surrender of *chauth* and *sardeshmukhi* of Gujrat to the Marathas by Sarbuland Khan was eyed with suspicion in the Imperial court as indicating the growing desire of the governor to carve out an Independent principality for himself with the help of the Marathas.<sup>2</sup> He was dismissed and Maharaja Abhay Singh was appointed as the governor of Gujrat<sup>3</sup> as he was then free from his civil strife. The Maharaja proceeded towards Ahmadabad from Jodhpur on March 18, 1730,<sup>4</sup> with a large force consisting of 20,000 soldiers, forty pieces of guns, 200 maunds of gun-powder and 100 maunds of lead.<sup>5</sup> On Sarbuland Khan's refusal to hand over the charge of the governorship, Maharaja Abhay Singh resorted to war and defeated him on the banks of the river Sabarmati on October 10, 1730.<sup>6</sup> Sarbuland Khan was then forced to leave the country.<sup>7</sup> Abhay Singh increased his military strength by annexing nearly 273 pieces of big and small guns, surrendered by Sarbuland Khan.<sup>8</sup> The sphere of the effective authority, held by the new governor

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1, S.P.D. xv 86.

2. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 12th day of the bright-half of Karttik vs. 1787/10th Nov. 1730. Jd.

3. Raj Rupak : Prakash xlii vv. 80 p. 656;  
Seir. Vol. I p. 254.

4. Raj Rupak : Prakash xlii vv. 238 p. 699

5. A letter of Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 12th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1787/10th Nov. 1730 Jd.

6. Ibid- dated 2nd day of dark-half of Karttika vs. 1787/16th Oct. 1730 Jd  
Raj Rupak : Prakash xlii vv. 1-470 pp. 707-811; Seir. Vol. I pp 254-255

7. Ibid;

8. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii p. 131.

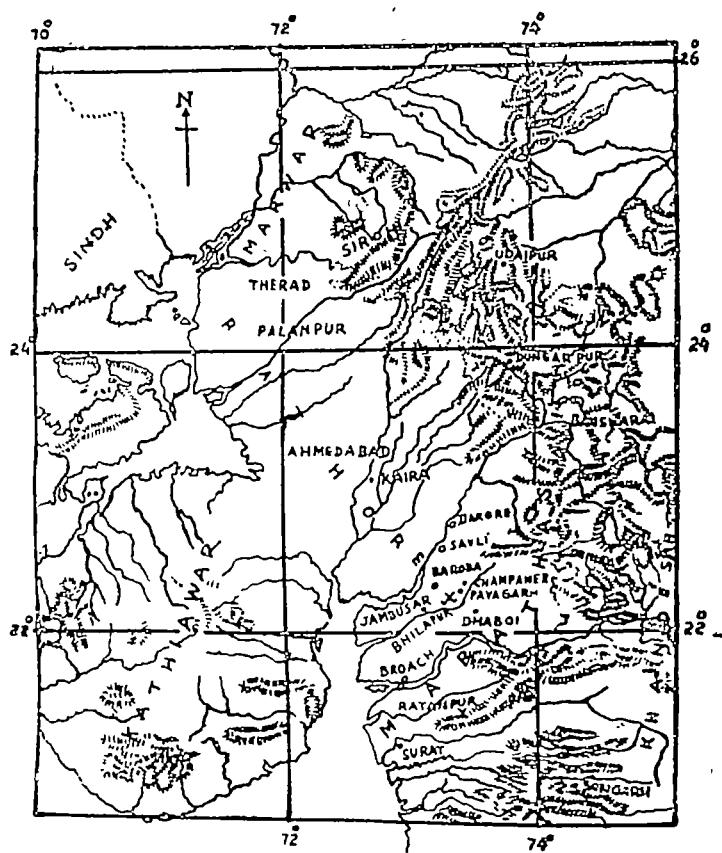


## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

was an area round about Ahamadabad and its 22 districts only.<sup>1</sup> The rest of Gujrat including Surat and its twenty eight districts were under the sway of Pilaji Gaikwar.<sup>2</sup> Pavagarh was held by Chinnaji and the fort of Champaner was under the possession of Kanthaji.<sup>3</sup>

Abhay Singh had an uphill task. The administration of Gujrat was in a bad condition.<sup>4</sup> The Marathas collected not only the *chauth* but also they levied *sardeshmukhi*. Any remittance of the revenue depended on their sweet will. They administered some of the places also. The *kharif* crop had completely destroyed. The *Ijaredars* had squeezed every pie of the revenue but the treasury remained empty. There was practically no income from the customs. Trade had diminished. The business community had to be rehabilitated. The peasantry had already paid their dues of the rainy season's crop to Sarbuland Khan, who pocketed it for his personal use and quitted the place. The winter crop was in a damaged state and the Mugal army, as left by Sarbuland Khan, was long in arrears. Abhay Singh needed ten to twelve lacs of rupees per month for a period of eight months atleast to maintain the large force and meet the expenditure of a sound administration for which he requested the Khan-i-Dauran.<sup>5</sup> He also required the services of the experienced military generals who could assist him in the task of subduing the Maratha menace.<sup>6</sup>

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1. A letter of Abhay Singh to Bhandari Amar Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1787/10th Nov. 1730. Jd.
  2. Ibid.
  3. Ibid- Pavagarh is 29 miles E. of Baroda, a mile S.W. of Champaner which is 22° 30'N 73° 30'E; 25 miles E. of Baroda. (See Map facing page 34.)
  4. Ibid.
  5. Ibid. Forty lacs were required only to keep the army.
  6. Ibid.



Gujrat under Rathor-Maratha domination  
( 1730-1733 A.D. )

There was no response from the Wazir.<sup>1</sup> This led to the worsening of the situation. The Marathas occupied Baroda, Dabhoi and Jambusar yielding a revenue of rupees thirty lacs in November, 1730.<sup>2</sup>

However, his position was eased because there arose a strife between Baji Rao Peshwa and Trimbak Rao Dabhade Senapati.<sup>3</sup> The Senapati did not like the *chauth* and sardeshmukhi agreement entered into between Chimnaji on behalf of the Peshwa and Sarbuland Khan. He regarded it as the Peshwa's interference in his sphere of influence. Hence he deviated from the terms. Baji Rao, disapproving the attitude of the Senapati threatened him with severe consequences. On that, Trimbak Rao contacted Nizam-ul-Mulk in the first week of October, 1730, to join him against the Peshwa.<sup>4</sup> The Nizam had a long cherished desire to regain Gujrat for himself. He lost no time in taking the full advantage of the opportunity and marched in good time into Khandesh with the intention of joining Dabhade. He had also contacted Muhammad Khan Bangash, the governor of Malwa, for his scheme. The Peshwa rushed in October, 1730. towards the North to prevent their junction.<sup>5</sup> By December, 1730, he was near Surat.<sup>6</sup> Thus towards the end of 1730 the atmosphere of Gujrat was surcharged with serious unrest and impending signs of war.

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1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.

Dabhoi is 20°8' N, 73°28' E, about 30 miles S.E. of Baroda. Jambusar is 22°6' N 73°3' E, about 5 miles N. of the Dhadhar river, a subsidiary of the river Mahi.

3. S.P.D. xii. 42-43.

4. S.P.D. x. 73.

5. S.P.D. x. 67; xii 42.

6. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 8th day of the dark-half of Magha vs. 1787/17th Jan. 1731. Jd.

The new governor was alarmed at the serious state of affairs in the neighbourhood of Ahmabadad. The coming of the Nizam towards Gujrat in association with Muhammed Khan Bangash was looked upon with grave suspicions, as the Nizam and the Rathor were old enemies<sup>1</sup> The Maharaja thought that if Dabhade succeeded with the help of the Nizam, his position in Gujrat would be weakened and it would deprive him of the long coveted<sup>2</sup> province of Gujrat, which he had gained for himself - relying on his own forces and putting the lives of the Rathors at stake.<sup>3</sup> In order to meet the situation the Maharaja asked for help from the Imperial court.<sup>4</sup> But the court was not alive to the grave situation arising in Gujrat as a result of the combination of Dabhade and the Nizam. The Emperor turned a deaf ear to repeated requests of the Maharaja and instead, he asked Abhay Singh to co-operate with the Nizam in resisting Baji Rao.<sup>5</sup>

### (C) The Mughal, the Maratha and the Rathor Interests in Gujrat.

The importance of Gujrat could not be underestimated. It was of prime importance for one wielding authority in the

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1. Abhay Singh to Amar Singh dated 14th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1787/April 10, 1731: Jd. ;  
Seir. I.p. 257.
  2. Bakht Singh letter dated 13th day of the bright-half of Asvina vs. 1784/Sept. 17, 1727 Jd.
  3. Abhay Singh to Amar Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1787/Nov. 10, 1730. Jd.
  4. Abhay Singh to Amar Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1787/Nov. 10, 1730 and dated 8th day of the dark-half of Magha vs. 1787/Jan. 17, 1731. Jd.
  5. Abhay Singh to Amar Singh dated 14th day of bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1787/April 10, 1731. Jd.

Northern India. It remained a valued possession of the Mughal Empire from its conquest by Akbar in 1573. Handicrafts and commerce were the main sources of wealth of the province. All merchandise of the rich inland districts of Khandesh, Malwa, Berar and even upper India had to cross Gujrat for shipment abroad. On its coasts stood the famous ports of Broach and Surat. Through Surat passed the enormous volume of Muslim pilgrims to the holy cities of Arabia. Travellers, merchants, scholars, fortune hunters and political refugees from Persia, Arabia, Turkey, Egypt, Zanzibar and Khurasan used to enter India through the Gujrat ports. The central government of the Mughals at Delhi always regarded their control over Gujrat as a regular source of revenue, both from the land and the sea. It also served as a military base for further expansion of the Mughal authority in the south. Free communications from north to south were possible only as long as Gujrat remained under their rule. Thus the hold over Gujrat was necessary for their domination in the Northern India, as well as of the South. But after the death of Aurangzib, the Mughals began to lose their hold over it. Every governor appointed tried to throw off the yoke of allegiance and establish his own semi-independent authority with the money he got from the Imperial treasury. Every change in the governorship was hotly contested.<sup>1</sup> That resulted in the deteriorating position of the Mughal administration in Gujrat.

The Marathas had begun to look towards Gujrat as a source of perpetual income since the days of Shivaji. Later on, they began to covet its possession as it served their policy of

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2. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 12th day of the bright-half of Kartika vs. 1787/10th Nov. 1730, Jd.

For details of such contests see *Mirat-i-Ahmadi* Vol,ii pp. 145-166,

northern expansion under Baji Rao I. With the Marathas securely established in Gujrat, they could use the province at their convenience against the Nizam without fear of his getting succor from Delhi because they surrounded the Nizam's territory on three sides. The establishment of the Maratha domination in Gujrat was, thus, the first step to the establishment of a large and powerful Maratha Empire. The Maratha penetration in that province began in the beginning of the Eighteenth Century but no major invasion occurred till 1716, when Khande Rao Dabhade held the country of Baglan and Khandesh under fee and had built a chain of forts on the road from Burhanpur to Surat. He garrisoned them and exacted *chauth* from the caravans passing that way.<sup>1</sup> In 1719 Pilaji Gaikwar established himself at Songarh and levied contributions on behalf of the Senapati Khande Rao Dabhade and in 1723 he built several forts in the Rajpipla country and overran a portion of the Surat *Sarkar*.<sup>2</sup> Kanthaji Kadam invaded the country by the orders of Shahu and realised similar contributions.<sup>3</sup> In 1724 the Nizam secured the Maratha support against the Emperor with a promise not to oppose their advance into Gujrat and Malwa.<sup>4</sup> Pilaji could establish his hold on the Ahmadabad side of the river Mahi in 1726.<sup>5</sup> Maratha chiefs had raided and regularly exacted contributions from this province. Baji Rao gave to these sporadic raids a systematic form and political content. He asked the *Senapati* Dabhade to agree to

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1. In lieu of the meritorious services, Shahu appointed Trimbak Rao Dabhade, his senapati (Rajwade vol.ii p. 28)

2. S.P.D. xxx 312.

Songarh is in west Khandesh.

3. S.P.D. xiii 2.

4. S.P.D. X.I.

5. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol:ii pp. 92-93.

### The Ahmadabad Pact of February, 1731 and its consequences

governorship of Gujrat on him. He (Abhaysingh) did not lose time in joining his new assignment in 1730, without pressing for money and military assistance at that moment.<sup>1</sup>

#### D) The Ahmadabad Pact of 1731 and its consequences

Unsupported by the Mughal court on the issue of Gujrat, Abhay Singh weighed the possibilities of a future action. He devised a plan of making an amicable settlement with the Peshwa. He sent Rathor Amar Singh, Ajimulla Khan and Bijay Singh Bhandari to Baji Rao to meet him at Ahmadabad.<sup>2</sup> The Peshwa agreed to it and he came on January, 23, 1731, to Ahmadabad, where he stayed as a royal guest at Shahibagh for a month.<sup>3</sup> An agreement<sup>4</sup> was signed by both the parties in February, 1731 and the terms were :

1. The Peshwa shall help the Maharaja to expel Pilaji Gai-kwar and Kanthaji Bande from Gujrat.
2. Abhay Singh shall pay rupees 13 lacs in lieu of the *chauth* of Gujrat.
3. Six lacs shall be paid immediately and the remaining sum shall be paid after the Peshwa has expelled Pilaji and Kanthaji and himself vacated Gujrat. The forces of the Peshwa shall have the right to re-enter Gujrat if Palaji and Bande come back there.

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1. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari, dated 12th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1787/10th Nov. 1730. Jd.

2. Marwar-ki-Khyat Vol. ii p. 139.

3. Ibid.

4. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 14th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1787/10 April 1731. Jd;

A letter from Daniel Innes to Henry Lowther dated 7th April 1731 No. 67 Surat Factory Diary Vol. 614;

Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii pp. 134-135;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 139.

side had disturbed the internal peace of Jodhpur.<sup>1</sup> It was strategically of great importance that the Rathors should either keep Gujrat under their influence or see that the political conditions of that land did not disturb their frontier. The richness of the land of Gujrat attracted the Rathors as a compensation for the dry west part of the territory. The north-east, east and south frontiers were the only spheres beyond which they could extend their territory.<sup>2</sup> Raja Sur Singh of Jodhpur began such a policy when he secured for himself an honourable Mughal office in Gujrat in 1596. Maharaja Jasvant Singh and his son Ajit Singh had been the Mughal governors of Gujrat in 1659-1662 and 1715-1717 and again in 1719 respectively. Both the chiefs had their *jagirs* in Gujrat and Ajit Singh had followed the policy of expansion of Marwar frontier towards it.<sup>3</sup> Abhay Singh, following the footsteps of his father, coveted the governorship of the province in 1727.<sup>4</sup> When Baji Rao had allotted the *Saranjami* of Jodhpur to Malhar Rao Holkar in 1728,<sup>5</sup> the need to keep Gujrat under the Rathor influence became urgent, in order to keep Marwar safe from the inroads of the Marathas. On the dismissal of Sarbuland Khan, the Emperor bestowed the

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1. Anand Singh entered into matrimonial alliance with the Marathas and asked them to accompany him to Jodhpur. (A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Jay Singh dated 10th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1782/31st March 1726 Jp.)

Jasvantpura is 24°47'N 72°28'E, about 39 miles N.W. of Abu Road Station. Bhinmal is 25°N 72°16'E, about 50 miles N.W. of Abu Road Station.

2. Abhay Singh had demanded from the Emperor the territories of Rajgarh Masuda, Khairwa, Bhinai in Ajmer district and Fatehpur, Jhujhunu in Shekhawati in 1730. (A letter of Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 12th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1787/10th Nov. 1730. Jd.)
3. Ajitodaya canto xxii and xxiii vv. 1-35; Marwar Khyat vol. I p. 142.
4. A letter from Bakht Singh dated 13th day of the dark-half of Asvina vs. 1784/17th Sept. 1727. (Jd.)
5. S.P.D. (New Series) Vol. I.6.



governorship of Gujrat on him. He (Abhaysingh) did not lose time in joining his new assignment in 1730, without pressing for money and military assistance at that moment.<sup>1</sup>

#### (D) The Ahmadabad Pact of 1731 and its consequences

Unsupported by the Mughal court on the issue of Gujrat, Abhay Singh weighed the possibilities of a future action. He devised a plan of making an amicable settlement with the Peshwa. He sent Rathor Amar Singh, Ajimulla Khan and Bijay Singh Bhandari to Baji Rao to meet him at Ahmadabad.<sup>2</sup> The Peshwa agreed to it and he came on January, 23, 1731, to Ahmadabad, where he stayed as a royal guest at Shahibagh for a month.<sup>3</sup> An agreement<sup>4</sup> was signed by both the parties in February, 1731 and the terms were :

1. The Peshwa shall help the Maharaja to expel Pilaji Gai-kwar and Kanthaji Bande from Gujrat.
2. Abhay Singh shall pay rupees 13 lacs in lieu of the *chauth* of Gujrat.
3. Six lacs shall be paid immediately and the remaining sum shall be paid after the Peshwa has expelled Pilaji and Kanthaji and himself vacated Gujrat. The forces of the Peshwa shall have the right to re-enter Gujrat if Palaji and Bande come back there.

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1. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari, dated 12th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1787/10th Nov. 1730. Jd.

2. Marwar-ki-Khyat Vol. ii p. 139.

3. Ibid.

4. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 14th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1787/10 April 1731. Jd;  
A letter from Daniel Innes to Henry Lowther dated 7th April 1731 No. 67 Surat Factory Diary Vol. 614;  
Mirat-i-Ahmadī Vol. ii pp. 134-135;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 139.

4. No other Maratha force shall enter Gujrat except that of Baji Rao.
5. Baroda shall be handed over to the Maharaja after its capture.
6. The Maharaja shall supply a Rathor contingent of 2,500 horse along with a Mughal force to Baji Rao.

This pact was signed on the lines of the agreement arrived at between Chinnaji and Sarbuland Khan nearly a year ago.<sup>1</sup> Abhay Singh recognised the right of the Peshwa to levy *chauth* and *sardeshmukhi* in Gujrat. In return, Baji Rao promised to drive Pilaji and Bande out of Gujrat with an end to remove the Dabhade influence. 'By this arrangement, Abhay Singh hoped to get rid of Pilaji Gaikwar who had entrenched himself in Surat *athavisi*, while the Peshwa imagined that by driving out this able representative of the Senapati he would fix his hold over the province.' The pact recognised only one authority in Gujrat in the person of the Peshwa and the governor secured even the exit of it after Dabhade and his agents had been cleared off. Thus his free rule in lieu of the *chauth* of rupees 13 lacs was assured. However, the Peshwa obtained the right to re-enter, if Pilaji and Kantbaji attempted to regain their influence and coerce the governor to pay *chauth* to them.

The agreement was expected to be beneficial to Abhay Singh, who, with only 2,500 horse and six lacs of rupees, was to drive away the Maratha menace from his immediate neighbourhood. He preferred Baji Rao to Dabhade because, allying with him would help the Rathor chief not only to staba-

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1. According to this agreement Sarbuland Khan agreed to pay 5% of the revenue of Ahmadabad and Sardeshmukhi of Gujrat except that of Surat (Rajwade; Vol. ii p. 59).

lise his hold on Gujrat but also strengthen his position against the Nizam. However, he dreamt of his hegemony over Gujrat but the following events suggest that it was a wishful thinking on his part.

As agreed Baji Rao proceeded towards Baroda to capture it for Abhay Singh, from Pilaji's brother Malaji, with a Rathore contingent under Bhandari Bijay Singh and Rathore Amar Singh.<sup>1</sup> As he approached near Sawali by March 25, 1731, he got the information about the movements of Dabhade and the Nizam. The latter had met Muhammed Khan Bangash for joint action against the Peshwa and the Rathors, in the last week of March, 1731. With Nizam's attitude clearly hostile, the Peshwa lost no time to allow him to join Dabhade. With Abhay Singh's forces and artillery at his back, Baji Rao struck at the *Senapati's* army.<sup>2</sup> Dabhade was routed and killed on Thursday, the first April, 1731, on the plains of Bhilapur, near Dabhoi.<sup>3</sup> His chiefs Pilaji, Kanthaji and Anand Rao fled but Baroda remained under Malaji.<sup>4</sup> The Rathor-Peshwa victory was hailed by the Maharaja and he recommended to the Emperor to bestow 'a robe of honour, a *farman*, an elephant and a *mansab* to Baji Rao for his meritorious services to the Emperor.<sup>5</sup>

1. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 139.

2. A letter of Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 14th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1787/10th April 1731. Jd.

3. Ibid;

Rajwade. ii p. 61;

S.P.D. xii 46. ;

Bhilapur is half way between Baroda and Dabhoi, about 15 miles of each.

4. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 14th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1787/10th April 1731. Jd.

5. Ibid.

But the imperial court took a different view of all these affairs. The Khan-i-Dauran doubted the intention of Abhay Singh to win over Baji Rao to the side of the Emperor.<sup>1</sup> He feared that Baji Rao, being afraid of Trimbak Rao, had joined the Maharaja in that way and would not help the Mughals in any bigger task.<sup>2</sup> Relying on the information supplied by the Nizam, the *Wazir* not only declined to ratify the Ahmadabad pact of 1731 February, but also asked the Maharaja to drive Baji Rao away and give him no help.<sup>3</sup> Secret instructions were sent to him, the Nizam, and Khan Bangash to punish Baji Rao, arrest him<sup>4</sup> and murder him too.<sup>5</sup> Abhay Singh protested against such a policy to be followed towards Baji Rao.<sup>6</sup> He wrote to the *Wazir* through his *vakil* that Baji Rao if left alone would join Pilaji and Kanthaji. Under such circumstances it was difficult to keep the Mughal and Rathore hold on Gujrat. He further argued that the *Wazir* should give effect to his recommendations so that Gujrat might not be lost to the Mughals.<sup>7</sup> Abhay Singh was so hopeful of his alliance with Baji Rao in keeping his sway over Gujrat that he asked his *vakil* in the Mughal court to take leave from the Emperor and come back, if the *Wazir* did not pay heed to his recommendations.<sup>8</sup> Meanwhile the secret instructions from the *Wazir* were conveyed to Baji Rao by the Nizam.<sup>9</sup> Baji Rao became

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1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid. (Second letter of the same date).

5. A letter from Maharaja Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 9th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1787/18th May 1731. Jd.

6. Ibid. dated 14th day of bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1787/18th April 1731 Jd.

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid.

9. Ibid. (Second letter of the same date).

suspicious of the designs of Abhay Singh. The Maharaja tried to give him assurances of good faith by reminding the *Wazir* to dispatch the honours and *farman* to Baji Rao immediately but the Peshwa, having confirmed the news from different sources, decided to leave the Maharaja.<sup>1</sup> He withdrew from Baroda in April, 1731 and rushed towards Satara, where the political situation required his presence.<sup>2</sup> He broke off all relations with Abhay Singh in June, 1731 and called back his *pandit* from Jodhpur.<sup>3</sup>

### (E) The murder of Pilaji Gaikwar (March 23, 1732.)

The action of the Peshwa disillusioned the Maharaja. The matters got complicated, when, after the battle of Bhilapur, Shahu, recognised the right of Dabhade to levy *chauth* and *sardeshmukhi* from Gujrat,<sup>4</sup> nullifying the decisions arrived at in Ahmadabad. The new *Senapati* Yashvant Rao, being a minor, could not administer the province. Hence, the entire management of his affairs was left to Pilaji Gaikwar. Though defeated, Pilaji had retained his hold on Baroda and the fort of Dabhoi.<sup>5</sup> His strength also lay in the support he got from the Kolis and Bhils of Gujrat, who in particular and the people in general, were tired of the tyrannous policy followed by the Mughal governor for collecting land

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1. Ibid.

2. *Mirat-i-Ahmadi* Vol. ii pp. 134-135;  
S.P.D. xii 49.

3. A letter from Baji Rao to Maharaja Jay Singh dated 7th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1788/15th June 1731. (KS). Jp.

4. S.P.D. xii 54, 55.

5. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 14th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1787/10th April 1731. Jd.

revenue and other taxes.<sup>1</sup> Abhay Singh regarded the rise of Pilaji in Gujrat as the immediate threat to his authority

When the Peshwa left him, he first tried to win over Pilaji to his side,<sup>2</sup> but on his refusal he devised a plan to murder him.<sup>3</sup> The Maharaja sent Ida Lakhdhir, Pancholi Ramanand and Bhandari Ajab Singh to Pilaji, who was at Dakore,<sup>4</sup> with the pretext to finalise the terms for the payment of *chauth* and *sardesmukhi*.<sup>5</sup> The party was also instructed that on receipt of their written request a contingent of 2,000 selected cavalry would be sent to help them in their mission to get rid of Pilaji.<sup>6</sup> Accordingly, on March 23, 1732, when the contingent encamped near Dakore, Ida Lakhdhir sought an interview with Pilaji in order to obtain permission for leaving the camp and there he killed him late at night.<sup>7</sup> The Marathas dispersed in confusion.<sup>8</sup>

1. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii pp. 136-141.

It mentions that Maharaja adopted the method of forged farmans, debased coins and confiscating the endowed land for collecting money, a large amount of which was sent to Jodhpur. The total revenue of 3 years as mentioned in Marwar-Khayat was 85, 34, 000 rupees (Vol. ii p. 138),

Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 268. vv. 31.

2. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 11th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1788/26th March 1732, Jd.

3. Ibid; and the letter dated 13th day of the bright-half of Vaisaka vs. 1788/26th April. 1732, Jd.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 140.

6. Ibid.

7. Ibid;

Dakore is 22°45'N 73°11'E, a favourite place of Hindu pilgrimage, on the Pali to Anand branch of Western Railway (Broad Gauge)

8. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 13th day of the bright-half of Vaisaka vs. 1788/26th April 1732. Jd.

Maharaja reported to the Wazir that he had captured 700 to 800 horses and some pieces of artillery from the Marathas on this occasion.

## THE MURDER OF PILAJI GAIKWAR ( March 23, 1732 )

With the removal of Pilaji the task of Abhay Singh was simplified. He was able to make progress within a month by capturing 24 forts along with Baroda in April, 1732 and in making a position to lay the siege of Dabhoi.<sup>1</sup> Finding it difficult to capture it, the Maharaja sent urgent messages to the *Wazir*, through his agent at Delhi to instruct the *Kiledar* of Surat to sent big pieces of artillery so that the siege might be raised with success before the setting in of the rainy season, which might prove beneficial to the Marathas to re-inforce themselves.<sup>2</sup> The court remained silent.<sup>3</sup> Owing to the approach of the rainy season the Maharaja was obliged to withdraw from Dabhoi and having given the defence of Baroda to Sherkhan Babi, its *faujdar*, he returned to Ahmadabad.<sup>4</sup> Soon, a severe famine stalked in and the Mughal governor failed to redress its pangs on the army.<sup>5</sup> The soldiers clamoured for the payment of the arrears also.<sup>6</sup>

1. Ibid- 2nd day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1788/30th April 1732 and the letter dated first day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1789/27th July 1732. Jd. ( See Appendix No. A ).

2. Ibid-dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1788/30th April 1732 and the letter dated 11th day of the bright-half of Ashada vs. 1788/7th June 1732. Jd.

3. Ibid-dated 1st day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1789/27th July 1732. Jd

The Court believed that the Maharaja had a revenue of 30 lacs of rupees from Baroda, hence it did not sent any help.

4. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii pp. 143-144.

5. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 1st day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1789/27th July 1732. Jd.

The wheat was sold at the rate of less than a seer for a rupee; the grass was not available; the soldiers and the horses ate the leaves of mango trees resulting in the death of fine breed horses.

6. Ibid.

The arrears totalled to rupees 30 lacs. The Maharaja arranged the defence of Baroda by pacifying the army of Sher Khan Babi with the payment of rupees one lac, taken on loan.

The Marathas, availing themselves of the conditions of the Mughal governor, made themselves the masters of Gujrat again. In the case of Kanthaji Kadam the Maharaja tried to repeat the policy adopted by him against Pilaji but the former escaped.<sup>1</sup> Damaji Gaikwar, son of Pilaji, ravaged the eastern part of Gujrat and moving northwards threatened Marwar in 1732.<sup>2</sup> In the beginning of 1733, Malhar Rao Holkar and Ranoji Sindia occupied Champaner and Pavagadh.<sup>3</sup> Vigorous measures were taken by Uma Bai Dabhade to establish her supremacy. She marched on Ahmadabad with an army of 70,000 soldiers and laid its siege in February, 1733.<sup>4</sup> The Maratha pressure all round forced Abhay Singh to come to terms, which were settled through the mission of Abhay Karan, son of Durga Das.<sup>5</sup> The Maharaja agreed to pay the *chauth* and *sardesh mukhi* of Gujrat and rupees 80,000 out of the revenue of Ahmadabad to Uma Bai.<sup>6</sup> She also forced Sher Khan Babi, the *faujdar* of Baroda to pay the *chauth*.<sup>7</sup>

The formidable pressure of the Marathas in Gujrat posing a threat to his position and prestige and creating troubles at the Mughal court and the danger of an invasion on Marwar<sup>8</sup> by the ruler of Bikaner compelled the Maharaja to entrust his

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1. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 139.
  2. Grant Duff: History of the Marahattas Vol. I p. 381.
  3. S. P. D. Xiv I;
  4. S. P. D. Xiv I;  
Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii pp. 157-158;  
Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 269. vv. 37.
  5. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii. p. 141.
  6. Rajawade: Vol. ii. pp. 64;  
Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii pp. 160-161;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 141. It mentions that Abhay Singh agreed to pay rupees 2 lacs.
  7. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii p. 161.
  8. Dayal Das-Khyat Vol. ii Leaf. 61.



## THE JOINT RAJPUT PRINCES' FRONT

responsibilities to his deputy Ratan Singh Bhandari and leave Gujrat in the middle of 1733.<sup>1</sup> Henceforth Bhandari watched the Rathor interest in Gujrat from 1733 to 1737.<sup>2</sup> Later on, the viceroyalty of the province was transferred to Momin Khan, who took over the control of the province on May 26, 1737, in the teeth of opposition from Ratan Singh Bhandari.<sup>3</sup>

### (F) The Joint Rajput Princes' Front against the Marathas.

Soon after his coming to Marwar Abhay Singh waged a war against the ruler of Bikaner.<sup>4</sup> After the rains, he (Abhay Singh) was asked by *Wazir* Qamar-ud-din Khan to return to his post in Gujrat but he did not like to leave the Bikaner engagement in the lurch and go there.<sup>5</sup> However, early in 1734, he concluded a peace with the Bikaner Raja and was free to proceed either towards Ajmer or Ahmadabad, where the Maratha threat had increased.<sup>6</sup> For this he asked his agent at Delhi to get clear instructions from the *Wazir* about his movements.<sup>7</sup> The *vakil* was asked to request the *Wazir* to confer upon him the governorship of Ajmer and send rupees 25 lacs to maintain a strong army for the defence purposes.<sup>8</sup> On this condition, he was prepared to send

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1. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii pp.162-163;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii. pp. 141-142.

2. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii, pp. 163-168 and pp. 177-236 (Details of Ratan Singh's activities).

3. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii. pp. 195-236;

Marwar-ki-Khyat Vol. ii. p. 146.

4. Dayal Das-Khyat Vol. ii. Leaf 6r

Marwar Khyat Vol. ii. p. 146.

5. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 7th day of the bright-half of Margasirsha vs. 1790/30th Nov. 1733. Jd.

6. A letter from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari dated 10th day of the bright-half of Phalgun vs. 1790/3rd March 1734. Jd.

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid.

10,000 cavalry immediately towards Ahmadabad.<sup>1</sup> In the meantime he received communication from Jay Singh, who requested his aid to push back the Maratha penetration in his dominions.<sup>2</sup> The Maratha danger was also becoming a menace in Bundi because Malhar Rao and Ranoji Sindia had visited it on March 24, 1734 in connection over the question of the Bundi succession to the throne.<sup>3</sup>

To check the Maratha penetration in Rajasthan, Jay Singh convened a conference of all the rulers of the various states of Rajasthan in July, 1734, at Hurda. Abhay Singh, along with his brother Bakht Singh, attended it. The other rulers, who participated, were from Mewar, Kishangarh, Bikaner, Kota and Karauli. They came to an agreement on July 13, 1734, according to which they pledged to honour the following :

1. All shall remain united in all circumstances, good or bad, with a pledge to abide by the terms.
2. No one shall countenance the traitor of another.
3. After the rains, the affairs shall commence and the chief of all parties shall assemble at Rampura; and if for any cause the head cannot come, he shall send his heir or some personage of weight.
4. Should from inexperience such heir commit any error, the Rana alone shall interfere to correct it.
5. In every enterprise all shall unite to effect it.<sup>4</sup>

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1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.

3. Vamsh-Bhaskar Vol. iv. pp. 3126-3127;  
vs 1790-1791, Basta No. 47 Bhandar No. 1 Kota Rec.

4. Tod : Vol. I pp; 482-483 ff. ;  
Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv pp. 3227-3228;

The decisions arrived at in Hurda were communicated to the *Wazir* and the *Bakhshi*, who assured the Princes, of the Imperial support and they also began preparations to keep the Marathas beyond the Narbada.<sup>1</sup> Immediately after the rains the Marathas renewed their activities.<sup>2</sup> To check their progress in northern India, two armies separately under *Wazir* Qmar-ud-din Khan and *Bakhshi* Khan-i-Dauran left the capital in November, 1734. The *Bakhshi* went towards the side of Rajasthan, where he was joined by Jay Singh, Abhay Singh and Durjansal of Kota with their contingents. The army swelled to 50,000 strong.<sup>3</sup> Early in February, 1735, the united army reached Rampura, where Holkar and Sindia were sighted. Malhar and Ranoji adopted their usual tactics to stop provisions reaching the large army. For eight days the Rajputs and the

Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali pp. 269-270 vv. 39-41;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii pp. 142-143.

Veer Vinod Vol. ii pp. 1218-1221.

Hurda is 25°54'N 74°42'E, about 3 miles from Barl station on Chittor-Ajmer line of Western Railway ( Meter Gauge ).

I have accepted the date of agreement as given in Veer Vinod. Vamsh Bhaskar mentions it in the bright-half of Karttika ( October ); Tod mentions it as 13th day of the bright-half of Srawana ( August 1st. ); Marwar-Khyat mentions the year only not the month and day. A reference to assemble after rains indicates that the conference was held just before the rains. In Rajasthan, the rains generally start from the middle of July. Tod's reference to the bright-half instead of the dark-half may be a slip. Hence the date given by the author of Veer Vinod is the likely date.

1. Scir I pp. 268, 285;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 143.

2. S.P.D. XXX pp. 312-318.

3. S.P.D. Xiv 23. The Maratha wakil at Dhar Naro Sheo Deo estimated it to be 2,00,000 horse and innumerable foot.

Marwar-Khyat (Vol. ii. p. 144) supports it. But it is exaggerated. The number given in Aitihāsik Chariten ( letter 68 ), which is 50,000 seems more probable,

Scir I p. 286,

*Bakhshi* were harassed by the two commanders. Then abandoning the blockade, they passed the rear of the Mughal army, crossed the Mukandara pass, and by way of Bundi entered the defenceless territory of Jaipur.<sup>1</sup> Sambhar was looted by them on February 28, yielding a rich harvest.<sup>2</sup> Finding the united front of the Princes of Rajasthan and the Mughals fruitless,<sup>3</sup> Jay Singh and Khan-i-Dauran opened negotiations with the Marathas and agreed to pay 22 lacs of rupees annually to them as the *chauth* of Malwa.<sup>4</sup>

### (G) Abhay Singh and anti-Maratha Junta in the Mughal Court.

The policy of appeasement followed by Jay Singh and Khan-i-Dauran was not liked by Abhay Singh. He, therefore, repaired to Delhi with a view to join hands with the party in the Mughal court, led by *Wazir* Qamar-ud-din Khan, which was in favour of active action against the Marathas.<sup>5</sup> But

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1. S.P.D. Xiv 21, 23;  
Seir. I p. 286;  
Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv p. 3227.
  2. S.P.D. Xiv 21, 23;  
Seir. I p. 268.  
Sambhar is 26°55'N 75°11'E, about 53 miles N. E. of Ajmer. It is famous for its salt lake.
  3. The germs of disunity among the signatories of Hurda conference began soon after the conference was over. Jay Singh demanded Ranthambore from the Emperor as the price to fight Marathas. There upon Abhay Singh put forward his case for Garh Bitli ( Tara garh of Ajmer ). The Emperor did not agree to these proposals. Thus dissension grew up between Jay Singh and Abhay Singh. ( Rathore Daneshwar Vamsbavali p. 270 vv. 42-44 )
  4. S.P.D. Xiv 23, 27; XXii 284; Hingane Dafter. 1. 2. Rustam Ali; Tarikh-i-Hind ( Elliot and Dowson Vol. viii pp. 50-51 ).
  5. S.P.D. xv 89, 91; Seir I p. 286;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 144;  
Parties and Politics at the Mughal court p. 223.

Abhay Singh and the *Wazir* were not on good terms. The Emperor was keen to take effective measures against the Marathas so he got the two reconciled. A plan of action was chalked out. The Emperor himself proposed to take the field against the Marathas. It was decided that the *Wazir*, Abhay Singh and Saadat Khan were to march by way of Gwalior, while Jay Singh and Khan-i-Dauran were to be sent to the Deccan by way of Jaipur.<sup>1</sup> Jay Singh was obviously of the opinion that it was not possible to fight the Marathas successfully and that a policy of reconciliation with them was the only feasible one, but his opinions were not heeded to.<sup>2</sup> He (Jay-Singh) rather took it as his personal insult when he was ordered that if he did not join, his country would be plundered and his disloyalty punished.<sup>3</sup> Thereupon he invited the Peshwa to Northern India, offering to bear his expenses and to secure for him the *chauth* of Malwa also.<sup>4</sup> Baji Rao left the Deccan in October, 1735 and he met Jay Singh at Bhamolao on March 14, 1736, where he remained with him for several days.<sup>5</sup> On the advice of Jay Singh, Baji Rao asked Malhar Rao, Ranoji Sindia, Kanthaji and Anand Rao Panwar to invade Marwar and lay it waste.<sup>6</sup> However, Baji Rao had his own quarrel with Abhay Singh who promised in 1735 to relieve him of his debts but did not execute it.<sup>7</sup>

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1. S.P.D. Xiv 39.

2. S.P.D. xv 89, 91. ;

Parties and Politics at the Mughal court p. 223. No Mughal campaign was taken in 1735-1736 ( Ibid. p. 240 )

3. S.P.D. Xiv 39.

He was also enraged because of the proposals of taking away Agra and Malwa from him and bestowing them on the *Wazir*.

4. S.P.D. Xiv 47, 51.

5. S.P.D. XXX pp. 322-324.

6. S.P.D. Xiii 49;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 145.

7. S.P.D. XXIX 39.

Malhar Rao and Ranoji, along with Raja Partap Singh Hada of Bundi,<sup>1</sup> passing through Shahpura<sup>2</sup> reached Merta. Abhay Singh, who was at Delhi at that time, instructed his general Bhandari Bijay Raj to be prepared to face the Maratha incursion in Marwar. The Rathore force assembled at Merta. Their strength increased when Umed Singh Sisodia of Shahpura joined them with 4,000 soldiers. Before the commencement of the battle, Holkar and Sindia sent Partap Singh Hada to negotiate for the payment of the ransom. But Bhandari and Umed Singh, acting on the advice of Abhay Singh, did not agree to pay it. Thereupon, Holkar occupied the town and laid the siege to the fort. The Marathas dug trenches and under its guard they made a push towards the walls of the fort. The Rathors regularly operated their artillery from the fort and made the advance of the enemy difficult by causing heavy casualties. At one time it seemed that the Marathas would flee but the heavy exchange of fire, which continued for two months exhausted the Rathore defence. Bhandari surrendered in the beginning of April, 1736 and agreed to pay the ransom. After the completion of the conquest of Merta, Holkar and Sindia forced Bakht Singh of Nagor to pay the tribute. Then they marched towards Ajmer and rejoined the Peshwa by the end of April.<sup>3</sup>

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1. Pratap Singh Hada was in alliance with Holkar since 1734, when he secured his help as the representative of Budha Singh, against his brother Daler Singh of Bundi for the throne.
  2. Shahpura is 25°38'N 74°56'E, about 60 miles S.S.E. of Ajmer.
  3. S.P.D. Xiv 14. (The correct date of the letter is April 1, 1736); *Mirat-i-Ahmadi* Vol. ii pp. 192-193. It mentions that Malhar Rao and Kanthaji went to Marwar via Bhinmal in 1736; *Tarikh-i-Hind* (Elliot and Dowson Vol. VIII p. 52) *Marwar-Khvat* Vol. ii pp. 145-146. It relates that Holkar and Sindia entered into Marwar from Sujrat side, with 50,000 horse, looted Jalor, Sujrat, Bera and marched towards Merta. One of the groups invaded Shahpura and Ratanada, a suburb of Jodhpur.

As promised at Bhambolao earlier, Jay Singh failed in his attempt to persuade the Emperor to confer on Baji Rao the right of *chauth* of Malwa.<sup>1</sup> At the same time Baji Rao received the information from his agent, Baji Bhiv Rao that the clique of Qamar-ud-din Khan, Roshan-ud-Daula, Saadat Khan and Abhay Singh was working against him and as such there was no hope that the cause of the Peshwa would have any fair prospects at the Mughal court.<sup>2</sup> Hence, Baji Rao decided that unless the Anti-Peshwa clique was defeated or thoroughly cowed down, it was not possible for him to secure the Emperor's recognition of the Maratha conquest of Malwa and its neighbouring areas. In order to press his point he resolved to raid Duab and left the Deccan on November 12, 1736.<sup>3</sup>

At Delhi, grand preparations were made to meet the Marathas. Large armies were equipped and put into the field under the command of the *Wazir* and *Mir Bakhshi*. Imperial *farmans* were sent out calling other Mughals chiefs and Rajput Princes to join the defence of the capital with their contingents. Abhay Singh, who was at Mozabad was asked to join them at Agra. The combined army was then to proceed against the Marathas.<sup>4</sup>

Abhay Singh remained in the vicinity of the capital with his ten to fifteen thousand Rathors.<sup>5</sup> Though the Peshwa appeared in Delhi on March 24, 1737 and in his habitual

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1. S.P.D. Xiv 54.

2. Ibid. Xv 89, 91.

3. S.P.D. xxii 341. Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv p. 240.; Parties and Politics at the Mughal Court pp. 230-231.

4. S.P.D. XXX 197, Xv 17, 18; Seir I pp. 291-292.

5. S.P.D. Xv 18.

manner conducted the operations for three days and then retreated, yet nothing substantive came out of it.<sup>1</sup> When the threat was over, Abhay Singh left Delhi in April with the Imperial permission for his native land.<sup>2</sup>

After the battle of Bhopal in December, 1737, the Peshwa continued raiding the states of Rajasthan.<sup>3</sup> Imperial *farmans* were sent again to the Rajput rulers to join the Emperor.<sup>4</sup> But we do not hear any active opposition of Abhay Singh against the Marathas during the period 1737 to 1742. The visit of Peshwa to Delhi could not directly harm Abhay Singh. But his partisan Jay Singh, who was already prejudicial to Abhay Singh, took interest in the internal disturbance caused by the revolt of Bakht Singh at Nagor in October, 1740.<sup>5</sup> Finding it a favourable opportunity, he invited the Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao at Dholpur in May 1741, with a view to enter into an agreement of helping each other against the mutual enemies.<sup>6</sup> Abhay Singh took a hint out of it and made an amicable settlement with his brother in May,<sup>7</sup> so that Jay Singh might not have any chance to interfere. But Jay Singh, who was bent upon humiliating Abhay Singh supported another brother of the Rathor ruler, Ratan Singh who was in

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1. S.P.D. Xv, 17, 37; XXX 198, 200  
Seir I. p. 291.

2. S.P.D. Xv 30.  
On April 5, Abhay Singh was at Jodhpur (Baji Rao's letter to Chhinnaji Appa from Jaipur dated 5th April 1737).

3. S.P.D. Xv 68, 69.

4. Ibid. 53.

5. S.P.D. (New Series) Vol. I. 59.

6. S.P.D. XXi 2.

7. S.P.D. (New Series) Vol. I 59.



prison.<sup>1</sup> He recognised him as the ruler of Jodhpur.<sup>2</sup> To secure the aim he started with an army. Bakht Singh and Abhay Singh met him at Gangwana<sup>3</sup> and a severe battle followed on May 28, 1741.<sup>4</sup> Jay Singh failed in his mission to enthrone Ratan Singh at Jodhpur for he concluded peace with Abhay Singh in January, 1742, and promised not to interfere in his matters.<sup>5</sup>

Since the conclusion of war at Merta in 1736, the Rathors had agreed to pay the tribute to the Marathas. It appears from a letter of Holkar and Sindia to the Peshwa dated March 13, 1742, that the payment was not regular. The Peshwa sent Malhar Rao and Ranoji Sindia to collect the tribute in March, 1742, but the prospects were not hopeful. Holkar came across difficulties in realising the tribute and raising money from the people of the districts of Sojat, Raipur and Jaitaran. They could collect a poor amount—rupees 100 to 200 only. The public at large resisted the Marathas. They preferred to quit their huts and lit fire to it rather than to make any payment. Even Abhay Singh evaded the payment of the tribute. Therefore Holkar suggested to the Peshwa that a strong measure should be taken before the rains set in and some methods should be adopted so that a fair collection might be made, which was due out of that area.<sup>6</sup>

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1. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii. pp. 155-156.

2. Ibid.

3. Gangawana is 11 miles N. E. of Pushkar.

4. Rathore Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 283 vv. 116.

5. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Jay Singh dated 2nd day of the bright-half of Magha vs. 1798/30th January 1742 (KS) Jp.

6. S.P.D. XXvii 2 (The correct date of the letter is 13th March 1742). Raipur is 26°3'N 74°2'E about 2 miles N. of Haripur station on Ajmer-Ahmadabad branch of Western Railway (Meter gauge).

## (H) Abhay Singh-Holkar Alliance 1748 A. D.

Soon after this, the relations between Abhay Singh and Bakht Singh deteriorated<sup>1</sup> and once again Marwar was endangered with the consequences of civil war. Bakht Singh gained his strength with the accession of the new Emperor, Ahmad Shah in April, 1748, who bestowed on him the governorship of Gujrat and Ajmer.<sup>2</sup> He was also given the territory of Sambhar, Didwana and Narnaul.<sup>3</sup> On his return from Delhi the same year, Bakht Singh occupied Sambhar.<sup>4</sup> It annoyed Abhay Singh. The return to arms became inevitable, when Bakht Singh sent his son to Bikaner to secure the help of Maharaja Gaj Singh.<sup>5</sup> Abhay Singh lost no time in engaging Holkar in lieu of rupees 11,000 per day for subduing the rebellious brother.<sup>6</sup> For securing this help Manroop Chand Bhandari was sent to Bundi,<sup>7</sup> where Holkar was staying at that time. Holkar proceeded towards Sambhar, where Bakht Singh had pitched his tents.<sup>8</sup>

1. Bakht Singh left his brother Abhay Singh during the Ajmer campaign of 1743-1744 (Marwar-Khyat. Vol. ii p. 157). In the Bikaner succession issue, both the brothers supported the rival claimants in 1746-1747 (Dayal Das-Khyat Vol. ii Leafs 69-72); S.P.D. Vol. ii. 1.
2. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii pp. 376-377; Hingane Daftar I. 32; Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 160;
3. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii. pp. 160. Didwana is 27°24'N 74°35'E; about 130 miles N.E. of Jodhpur. Narnaul is in Patiala district of Punjab.
4. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii. p. 160.
5. Dayal Das-Khyat Vol. ii. Leafs 71-72; Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii. p. 160.
6. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 160.
7. Ibid.
8. Ibid.

Soon receiving the information that Jaipur affairs<sup>1</sup> required his immediate presence there, he brought about reconciliation between the brothers.<sup>2</sup> Abhay Singh sent a Rathor force under Manroop Chand Bhandari along with Holkar, who had proceeded against Ishwari Singh.<sup>3</sup> The latter was defeated at Bagru by the combined forces in August 1748.<sup>4</sup> After the victory Holkar came to Pushkar and met Abhay Singh there.<sup>5</sup> Both exchanged turbans, dined on the same table<sup>6</sup> and thus developed a close relationship. Since then cordial relations remained between the successive rulers of Marwar and the family of Holkar as subsequent history depicts.

Abhay Singh did not live long but his last days were troublesome. Though Bakht Singh was reconciled,<sup>7</sup> he remained dissatisfied. The Maharaja had no hopes from his son, Ram

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9. The Jaipur affairs referred above related to the internal conflict arising after the death of Jay Singh at Jaipur, in September 1743. The promise of Ishwari Singh to give half of his state to his younger brother Madho Singh in May, 1748, in the presence of the Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao at Newai was not kept by him. This necessitated Holkar, on behalf of the Peshwa, to take up the cause of Madho Singh and force Ishwari Singh to abide by the promise.

1. Dayal Das-Khyat Vol. ii Leafs 71-72;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 160.

2. Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv pp. 2483-3527;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii. p. 159.

3. S.P.D. Vol. ii p. 159.

Marwar Khyat Vol. ii 1.

4. Vamsh-Bhaskar Vol. iv. pp. 3534-3543;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 159-160.

5. Ibid.

Abhay Singh and Malhar Rao had developed brotherly relations clearly accepted in the traditions as reported by Krishnaji Jagannath, the Maratha representative in the court of Bijay Singh (Jy 5)

1. The two brothers last met on Dec. 26, 1748;

Hingane Dafter. I. 32.

Singh, who was immature in his decisions, to keep the reputation of the Rathors.<sup>1</sup> However, he had secured the moral support of Malhar Rao for the upkeep of the family. He expired after a long illness at Ajmer on June 19, 1749.<sup>2</sup>

### CHAPTER III

## The Civil War in Marwar between Ram Singh and Bakht Singh (1749-1752 A.D.) and Maratha Intervention

### (A) Rivalry between Ram Singh and Bakht Singh

Bakht Singh became formidable early in 1748 by acquiring the governorship of Gujrat and Ajmer from the Emperor on the promise to expel the Marathas from Gujrat.<sup>1</sup> Immediately after this, he clamoured for the throne of Marwar and for that he took recourse to rebellion against the authority of his brother. But he could not succeed due to the help which Abhay Singh received from Malhar Rao Holkar in 1748 as referred to in the previous chapter. With the accession of Ram Singh, his nephew, to the throne of Marwar on July 13, 1749<sup>2</sup> Bakht Singh's ambitions found a fresh impetus.

The new ruler was nineteen when he came to the throne.<sup>3</sup> Abhay Singh himself doubted the ability of his son to administer the state as he was reckless, insolent, vicious, dissipated and

1. Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol. ii. pp. 376-377;  
Hingane Daftar. I. 132.

2. Abhay Singh died at Ajmer on June 19, 1749. Ram Singh succeeded him and was coronated in the fort of Jodhpur on July 13, 1748. (Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 163).

3. He was born on July 28, 1730.

perfidious. For such a weak ruler a territory, torn by jealousy and ambition of his uncle, was difficult to administer. The prolonged war with the Maratha at one time, with the ruler of Bikaner at another time and with Sawai Jay Singh at all times had squandered away all that peaceful economy had accumulated and led Marwar to the edge of financial ruin<sup>1</sup>. It had enhanced the importance of the feudal order and led to the growth of mutual rivalry and feuds among them. Though Ram Singh's 'understanding was excellent and well cultivated yet his capricious temperament, to which he gave vent with an unbridled vehemence, disgusted the high-minded nobles of Marwar.'

### (B) Rathors Divided into two Camps

Abhay Singh had secured the moral support of Holkar, for his family. The new Maharaja ascended the throne with Malhar Rao recognising him as the rightful claimant for the leadership of the Rathors. He had sent a *Tika* and an elephant at the time of his coronation.<sup>2</sup> Bakht Singh refused to acknowledge him as the leader of the Rathors<sup>3</sup> and made preparations for opposing him in league with Gaj Singh of Bikaner.<sup>4</sup>

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1. S.P.D. XXvii 2.

2. S.P.D. XXvii 40;  
Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv. p. 3585;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 164.

3. Bakht Singh, out of courtesey, sent *Tika* to Ram Singh along with his Dhabai, the foster mother. It was regarded as a sign of revolt by Ram Singh for according to the custom Bakht Singh, being the first in the lineage of Rathor aristocracy after the Maharaja, should have personally attended the coronation ceremony and presented the *Tika*;  
Hingane Daftar. II. 8;  
Bijay Vilas 9: 103 vv. 103 ;  
Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 295, vv. 16.

4. Dayal Das-Khyat Vol. ii Leafs 72, 73;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 172.

## RATHORS DIVIDED INTO TWO CAMPS

The die had been cast dividing the Rathors of Marwar into two armed camps. Some of the leading nobles were led by Kushal Singh of Awa, Kani Ram of Asop and the *Thakur* of Khinwasar. They were dissatisfied with the behaviour and the bad taste of the Maharaja, which gave patronage to persons of low origin like Amia Nagarchi, Chakhar Chanda, Chudigar Sarfuddin and Ghasiyara Khuda Bux<sup>1</sup> They proceeded to join the camp of the chief of the Nagor.<sup>2</sup> Bakht Singh, hearing of the coming of the chief nobles on the border of his territory, advanced to welcome them.<sup>3</sup> He gave them *jagirs* in his dominion.<sup>4</sup> The rest of the nobles like those of Rian, Kuchawan, Alniawas, Bhadrajan etc. remained united under the sovereign's standard.<sup>5</sup> At the same time, to make his position strong, Ram Singh attempted to take the fort of Jalor from Bakht Singh but he failed to dislodge his uncle from there.<sup>6</sup>

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1. Bijay Vilas pp. 103-104;  
Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv pp. 3625-3626;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii pp. 164-165.  
Awa is 25°37'N 73°39'E, about 8 miles S.E. of Marwar Junction. Asop is 26°48'N 73°35'E, about 50 miles N.E. of Jodhpur. Khinwasar is 26°59'N 73°25'E, about 60 miles N. E. of Jodhpur.
  2. S.P.D. Vol. ii 17;  
Bijay Vilas pp. 103-104 vv. 103.
  3. Bijay Vilas pp. 103-104 vv. 103;  
Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv pp. 3625-3626;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii pp. 164-165.
  4. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii pp. 164-165.
  5. Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali pp. 299-301 vv 38-48;  
Rian is 26°32'N 74°14'E. about 16 miles S.E. of Merta. Alniawas is 26°31'N 74°20'E. about 20 miles S. E. of Merta.  
Kuchawan is 27°9'N 74°62'E, about 8 miles N. of Narayanpura station on Merta-Phulera Railway line.  
Bhadrajan is 25°36'N 72°53'E, about 50 miles S. of Jodhpur.
  6. Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 295 vv. 16.

**{C) Rathor-Kachhawaha Rivalry**

Efforts were made by both the parties to enlist the outside help. Ram Singh contacted Ishwari Singh of Jaipur in the beginning of 1750.<sup>1</sup> The traditional Rathor-Kachhawaha rivalry had embittered the relations of Jodhpur and Jaipur rulers. Sawai Jay Singh attempted in 1741 to dethrone Abhay Singh and put Ratan Singh on the Jodhpur throne. However, he failed at the battle of Gangwana in May, 1741. Soon after his death in 1743, a civil war among his sons broke out. Abhay Singh supported the cause of Madho Singh in league with Malher Rao Holkar. As such, Ishwari Singh could not remain aloof from what was happening in Marwar. But as he remained preoccupied against the Marathas, he was not able to take advantage of the situation during the revolt of Bakht-Singh against his brother in May, 1748. The battle of Bagru brought a temporary peace to his land but the internal conditions gave rise to confusion and disorder in the state.<sup>2</sup> This pitiable situation forced him to give up the traditional rivalry and enter into amicable relations with Ram Singh. Hence, when he was requested by the Rathor Chief to come to his aid, he readily showed his inclination to support his cause.<sup>3</sup> Bakht-Singh sent overtures to Madho Singh for the same purpose.<sup>4</sup>

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1. S.P.D. ii 15, 16., XXI 25;  
Seir Vol. iii p. 316;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 172.
  2. S.P.D. ii 1, 15.
  3. S.P.D. XXI 27, 35;  
Seir, iii p. 316;  
Marwar Khyat Vol. ii pp. 168-169. It mentions that Ishwari Singh gave his daughter to Ram Singh in marriage.
  4. A Kharita (draft) from Madho Singh to Bakht Singh dated 11th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1806/9th November 1749. Jp.  
Madho Singh was at Nenva (SPD ii 13).



## MARATHA HELP SOUGHT BY BOTH THE PARTIES

Maho Singh naturally came to his side as he was a rival candidate against Ishwari Singh. He assured Bakht Singh of his cooperation in task.<sup>1</sup> Besides it, Bakht Singh also secured the support from the Imperial court for which he had to promise help to the Emperor to defend the provinces of Agra and Ajmer from the Maratha inroads.<sup>2</sup>

### (D) Maratha help sought by both the Parties.

With the assurance of help from the Rajput Princes to both the claimants, there came up the question of securing the Maratha alliance. Madho Singh had already informed Bakht Singh on November 9, 1749, that he would come with an army of Udaipur and would also try to secure five to six thousand horse from Holkar.<sup>3</sup> Ram Singh, on his part, requested Ishwari Singh to bring the Maratha help.<sup>4</sup> Ishwari Singh sent his minister, Kesho Rai, son of Rai Mal, to Shahu and the Peshwa.<sup>5</sup> A small force of 1,500 was spared by the Peshwa,<sup>6</sup> for Ram Singh against Bakht Singh. Holkar, too, sent a force to Ram Singh under his son.<sup>7</sup>

The support by the Imperial court was whole hearted. The *Bakhshi* Salabat Khan reached Narnaul, where Bakht Singh

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1. Ibid.

2. Scir : Vol. iii p. 311.

3. A Kharita (draft) from Madho Singh to Bakht Singh dated 11th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1806/9th November 1749. Jp.

4. S.P.D. XXi 25;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 172.

5. S.P.D. XXi 25.

6. Ibid.

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii. p. 172.

7. Scir Vol. iii p. 317. Probably the son was no other than Khande Rao.

joined him. Then the two by a forced march arrived at Ajmer. From there, proceeding through Merta, they moved towards Pipar, where they halted five miles east of the town. In the meantime Ram Singh, Ishwari Singh and their Maratha allies totalling 30,000 and a numerous artillery, marching from Jodhpur, arrived at Pipar on April 4, 1750. The scarcity of water and the scorching heat of Marwar were not favourable for any active action. Both the parties waited for some time till Salabat Khan opened negotiations with Ram Singh through Ishwari Singh. Attempts to agreement continued for ten days without any results. Ultimately the parties took recourse to war on April 14 with no conclusive results. In the meantime the situation took a new turn. Many of the allies of Ram Singh, particularly the Marathas remained aloof and then began to desert him. His vassals also changed sides. As such Ram Singh had no course open for him, but to come to terms with the Mughal general. Peace was signed on April 16. As agreed, Ram Singh paid rupees three lacs in cash and promised to pay four lacs more by instalments to Salabat Khan as a tribute to the Mughal Emperor. Bakht Singh did not get anything.<sup>1</sup>

Bakht Singh did not like this settlement. Hence he left Pipar in anger for Nagor<sup>2</sup> in order to make fresh preparations for measuring sword against the forces of Ram Singh. As soon as Marwar was cleared of the foreign troops, he attacked Ram Singh and a battle ensued on November 27, 1750, between

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1. S.P.D. ii'16; XXi 25, 27, 35;

Seir : Vol. iii pp. 315-318;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii pp. 171-172.

Pipar is 26°23'N 73°33'E, about 32 miles E. of Jodhpur. The halting place of Salabat Khan was probably the village of Raona, which is 7 miles east of Pipar.

2. Seir Vol. iii p. 318;



Bakht Singh, Jodhpur

flouted the Maratha interference in his state<sup>1</sup> and after his death, Madho Singh picked a quarrel with the Marathas by massacring Deccani soldiers in his capital.<sup>2</sup> Soonafter, the affairs of *Wazir Safdar Jang* in *Ruhilkhand* drew his attention.<sup>3</sup> Ram Singh did not impress Holkar much. The behaviour of the young Rathor ruler towards the agents of Holkar at the time of his coronation was insulting to a family friend.<sup>4</sup> His reckless administration, which brought desertions of chief nobles, was sufficient to make his position weak in the eyes of Holkar. However, he did not want to break away completely from Ram Singh because of the family relationship with his father Abhay Singh. Hence he sent half-heartedly a force<sup>5</sup> to side him at the battle of Pipar in 1749, against his uncle, Bakht Singh, but later on he became neutral. His neutrality was a decisive factor in deciding the fate of Ram Singh. Bakht Singh won because he could secure the support of the chief nobles of Marwar as well as of the Imperial court,<sup>6</sup> little caring whether any Maratha leader came to his aid.

#### (E) Ram Singh seeks Maratha help against Bakht Singh.

The seizure of power at Jodhpur by Bakht Singh was not taken as a decisive factor by Ram Singh, who immediately

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1. S.P.D. ii 19, 31; Xi 34.

2. S.P.D. XXvii 64, 65.

3. Ibid. XXi 38, 40; XXvii 64, 65.

4. Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv. p. 3585; Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 164-165.

5. Seir Vol. iii p. 318. Malhar Rao's son took leave from the Rathor ruler in the midst of the campaign.

6. 'A letter from the Maratha agent at Jaipur 1751 A.D.' I.H.R.C. (1944) pp. 10-12.



Bakht Singh, Jodhpur

## RAM SINGH SEEKS MARATHA HELP AGAINST BAKHT SINGH

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1. S.P.D. ii 19, 31; Xi 34.

2. S.P.D. XXvii 64, 65.

3. Ibid. XXi 38, 40; XXvii 64, 65.

4. Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv. p. 3585;  
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## RAM SINGH SEEKS MARATHA HELP AGAINST BAKHT SINGH

suggested to Hingane that a war between Ram Singh and Bakht Singh would last for a year at least, hence it could bring a crore of rupees.<sup>1</sup> Hingane asked Holkar and Sindia to comply with the request of the agents of Ram Singh.<sup>2</sup>

Malhar Rao did not help the cause of Ram Singh as he was secretly purchased over by Raj Singh Chohan, the agent of Bakht Singh, on a promise to pay him rupees two lacs.<sup>3</sup> In the meantime Purohit Jagan Nath appealed to Holkar, in the name of Abhay Singh to stand by his master's side. Holkar tried to put him off by the excuse that he would have to get the permission from the Peshwa.<sup>4</sup> However, on much insistence from the Purohit, he asked the envoy to meet Jayppa Sindia in that connection.<sup>5</sup> The envoys remained for two months with Holkar and Jayppa.<sup>6</sup> Sindia agreed to the proposal and assured the Rathor delegation that as soon as he was free from the affairs of the Afghans, he would come to the aid of Ram Singh.<sup>7</sup> Jagan Nath paid to Sindia two months advance for a force of ten to twelve thousand.<sup>8</sup>

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1. Ibid.

2. H. S. I. S. Vol I 143.

3. Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 366. vv. 413.

4. Ibid. vv. 415-417;  
Hingane Daftar. Vol. I. 59.

5. Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 366. vv. 414;  
Hingane Daftar Vol. I. 59.  
Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv pp. 3630-3631.

6. Hingane Daftar. Vol. I. 59.

7. Ibid;  
Marwar Khyat ii p. 183.  
Throughout 1751 and the first four months of 1752, the Maratha forces in Northern India were entangled in Safdar Jang's war with the Afghans and no troops could be spared for Rajputana.

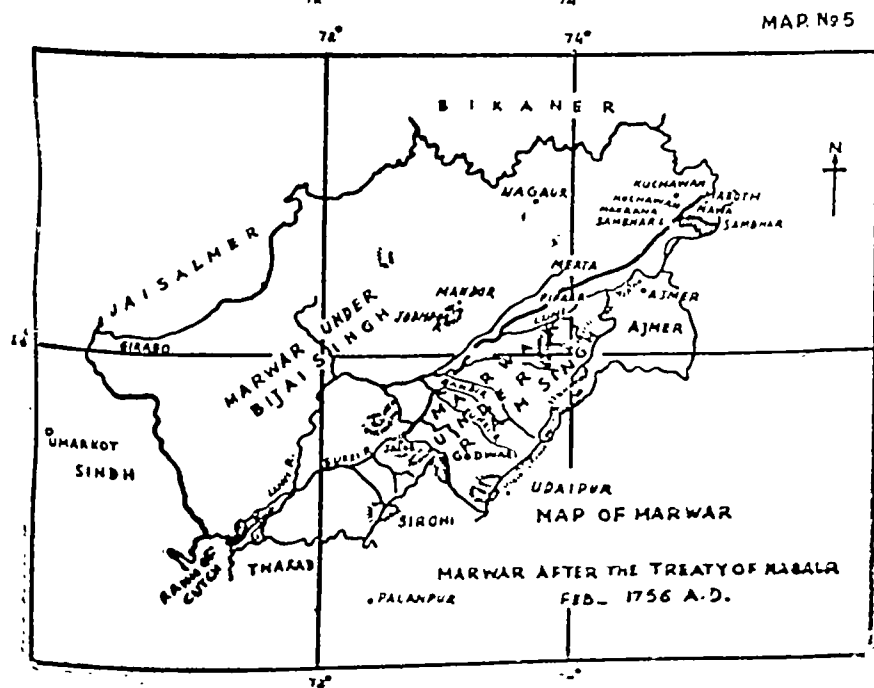
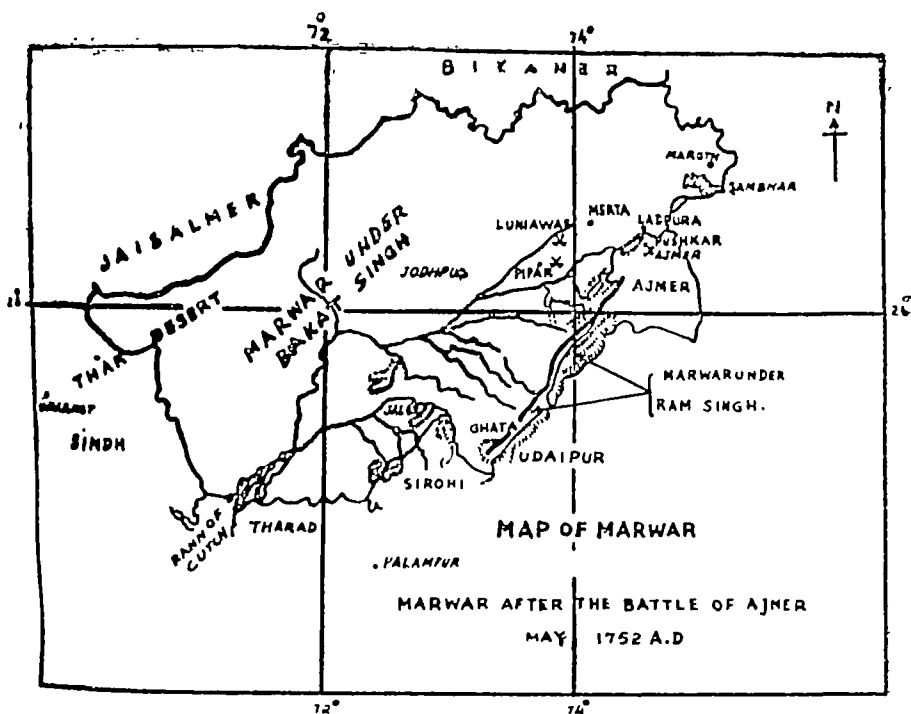
8. Hingane Daftar. Vol. I. 59.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

after the loss of realm, proceeded to his own men under Purohit Jagan N secure his aid.<sup>1</sup> Bakht Singh also sendan to Jaipur with the same purpose. ruler of Jaipur. The reaction of Marhically recorded in a letter by Govir agent there, and conveyed to Bapuji M 1751.<sup>3</sup> He mentions that on receiving Jaipur, Madho Singh was in a fix. 'Tl Singh's complete triumph over Ram Si turbing to him in view of the aggressive Singh was sure to adopt hereafter on his couraging was the prospect of Ram Singh and taking refuge with Holkar, as that w (Madho Singh's) prestige.<sup>4</sup> Madho Sing to help Ram Singh against Bakht Singh.<sup>5</sup>

The letter further gives the detail: was not personally in a position to provide or money, hence he directed Purohit Jagat chief nobles to contact Holkar and Sindia<sup>6</sup> empowered to pay any sum that would fi force of 10,000 men for a month or two<sup>7</sup>





against the Marathas in July, using his artillery to disperse the enemy.<sup>1</sup> Ram Singh and the Marathas could not stand the Rathor fury. They lost the battle on July 18, 1752 and fled to Ramsar.<sup>2</sup> Later on, Sahiba Patel and his Maratha force left for the Deccan.<sup>3</sup> With this defeat Ram Singh had also to lose his artillery kept at Marot to Bijay Singh.<sup>4</sup> But the *Ghata* area<sup>5</sup> remained under his possession.<sup>6</sup>

Bakht Singh did not remain silent after the victory. He was aware of the fact that the Marathas would again invade Marwar at any time. Hence, he planned to organise another confederacy of the Rajput rulers to keep them (the Marathas) beyond Rajputana.<sup>7</sup> It had a satisfactory response. The Jaipur force of 5,000 under Shankar Datta, stationed at Ajmer, decided to join Bakht Singh.<sup>8</sup> Shahpura ruler Umed Singh, too, sent his representative, Fatch Ram Kayastha to the Rathor

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1. Bijay Vilas p. 106 vv. 15.  
Rathore Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 367 vv. 420.
  2. A letter from Shankar Datta to Dewan Sadashiva dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1809/18th July 1752. Jp.  
Bijay Vilas p. 108 vv. 21;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 185.  
It mentions that Ram Singh went to Mandsore. Ramsar is 20 miles S.E. of Ajmer.
  3. A letter from Shankar Datta to Dewan Sadashiva dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1809/18 July 1752. Jp.
  4. Ibid-dated 12th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1809/26th July 1752 Jp.; Vijay Vilas p. 110. vv. 1.
  5. Ghata area is the southern-eastern part of Marwar, which included a part of Godwad (See map facing p. 103).
  6. A letter from Shankar Datta to Dewan Sadashiva dated 12th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1809/26th July 1752 Jp.
  7. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 185.
  8. Letters from Shankar Datta to Dewan Sadashiva dated 2nd and 3rd day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1809/17th and 18th July 1752 Jp.

chief for the joint action.<sup>1</sup> Bakht Singh also tapped Madho Singh that they might divide Malwa in between the two after driving the Marathas beyond the Narbada.<sup>2</sup> He also pointed out that the joint action would serve the purpose of Madho Singh to take his revenge upon Holkar while he would get an opportunity to humiliate Sindia.<sup>3</sup> In order to finalise the plan Bakht Singh left Kekri on August 14, 1752.<sup>4</sup> He met Madho Singh at Soneli on September 18.<sup>5</sup> This interview of the rulers of Jodhpur and Jaipur was interpreted by the Maratha agent, Antaji Manekeshwar as the joint plan of Jaipur-Jodhpur to uproot the Maratha ascendancy from north India.<sup>6</sup> But before the whole plan could be finalised, Bakht Singh expired on September 21, 1752, at Soneli.<sup>7</sup>

1. Ibid-dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada Vs. 1809/15th August 1752. Jp.;  
Hadas of Kota, Rao of Sirohi, Sisodias too joined him (Bijay Vilas p. 108. vv. 19-20)
2. Marwar Khyat Vol. ii p. 185.
3. Ibid.
4. A letter from Shankar Datta to Sadashiva dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1809/15th Aug. 1752. Jp.;  
Kekri is 25°25'N 75°13'E, about 60 miles S.E. of Ajmer.
5. Marwar-Khyat Vol ii p. 185.;  
Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 372. vv. 448-456.
6. S P.D. XXi 50,
7. Bijay Vilas p. 109 v. 24.;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 186. It gives the day of his death on Sept. 21.;  
J.N. Sarkar (Fall of the Mughal Empire. Vol. I. p. 179) mentions that Bakht Singh died on Sept. 23, 1752. I have accepted the date given by contemporary Rajput source, i. e. Bijar Vilas. The verse'

सम्बत अठारै से नवे, सुद पख मादव मास ।  
तिय तेरस बखती नपृत, वमियो सुरपुर वास ॥

indicates that he died on September 21, 1752.

Bakht Singh had a strenuous career throughout his life. In the first instance he had to take up the task with a mission to remove from the throne of Jodhpur his nephew, Ram Singh, an incapable and inefficient ruler of Marwar. He was successful in that task. In the meantime he also laboured hard to minimise the Maratha interference in his dominions. He never allowed them to exercise their influence in the Jodhpur politics so persistently and actively as they did in Jaipur over the succession issue from 1743 to 1751.

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सम्बत अठारे से नवे, सुद पख सादव मास ।

॥ तिथि तेरस बखतौ नपूत, बसियो सुरपुर वास ॥

indicates that he died on September 21, 1752.

## RAM SINGH SEEKS MARATHA HELP

Bakht Singh had a strenuous career throughout his life. In the first instance he had to take up the task with a mission to remove from the throne of Jodhpur his nephew, Ram Singh, an incapable and inefficient ruler of Marwar. He was successful in that task. In the meantime he also laboured hard to minimise the Maratha interference in his dominions. He never allowed them to exercise their influence in the Jodhpur politics so persistently and actively as they did in Jaipur over the succession issue from 1743 to 1751.

## CHAPTER IV

# Bijay Singh and the Marathas (1752-1793 A. D.)

### (A) Rivalry between Ram Singh And Bijay Singh- A Period of Respite.

Bakht Singh had planned to foster a united front of the Rathors, the Kachhwahas, the Jats and the Mughal *Wazir* to eject the Marathas from northern India<sup>1</sup> after his victory over them at Ajmer but before he could achieve any success he died in September, 1752. The task of carrying it out fell on his successor, Bijay Singh. In the beginning of his reign, the new ruler of Jodhpur was fortunate that the political conditions of northern and southern India were such that Marwar could enjoy a period of respite for a year and a half from the inroads of the Marathas. The Imperial court witnessed the civil war between the Emperor Ahmad Shah and his *Wazir* Safdar Jang after the murder of Javid Khan, the favourite of the Emperor, on August 27, 1752. The Emperor realised that he was a mere prisoner in the *Wazir's* hands: Ahmad Shah Abdali was quick to discern the situation and sent his agent to Delhi demanding the yearly tribute of rupees fifty lacs. Safdar Jang could hardly manage to send the agent back with some partial payment. Immediately after it he confronted opposition from the Emperor's mother, Udhambai, Intizam-ud-Daula *Mir Bakshi*

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1. S.P.D. XXi 50

## RIVALRY BETWEEN RAM SINGH AND BIJAY SINGH

and Shahab-ud-Din, resulting in an open armed clash between the two parties.

Then followed civil war on March 26, 1753, lasting upto November 7. The *Wazir*, realising the dangers, sent urgent calls to the Peshwa for the armed help. The Emperor also approached Antaji Mankeshwar, the Maratha commander left at Delhi and the Maratha envoy, Bapuji Mahadev Hingane, to support his cause.<sup>1</sup> Both sides made efforts to obtain the active support of Maratha army at Delhi. Bapuji Mahadev agreed to place 5,000 Maratha troops at the disposal of the Emperor, in return for which, Ahmad Shah promised to allot the provinces of Oudh and Allahbad to the Peshwa. But Antaji intrigued both with the *Wazir* and the Emperor. In the end Mahadev's iron will prevailed and the Marathas definitely joined the Royal forces, rejecting Safdar Jang's offer of a rich *Jagir* yielding rupees sixteen lacs annually.<sup>2</sup> In the meantime the attention of the Peshwa and the other leading Maratha generals was diverted towards the installation of Ghazi-ud-Din on the seat of the Nizam and the conquest of Carnatik.<sup>3</sup> Under the circumstances, Bijay Singh had a peaceful coronation on January 31, 1753.<sup>4</sup> His accession was acclaimed by Holkar, who had sent felicitation to him as early as October 9, 1752.<sup>5</sup>

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1. Aitihāsik Patravayavhar 89.

2. Ait. Patren. ii 86.

3. S.P.D. XXvii 68.

4. Bijay Vilas p. 110 W. I; Marwar-Khyat iii p. 1. At the time of the death of Bakht Singh, Bijay Singh was at Marot, where he ascended the throne as the ruler of Jodhpur. His coronation took place in the fort of Jodhpur.

5. A letter from Malhar Rao to Bijay Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of Asvina vs. 1809/Oct. 9, 1752. Pf. 2b file 1. Jd.



## (B) Ram Singh again seeks Maratha help.

The period of respite was a temporary one. The civil war at Delhi necessitated the presence of the Marathas in the North. The Peshwa sent Raghunath Rao in October, 1753, with a specific direction to sit on the fence, watch for the end of the civil strife and then join the victor or take advantage of the exhaustion of both the sides so as to increase the Maratha domination over the North.<sup>1</sup> Raghunath Rao, accompanied by Holkar and Sindia, proceeded towards Delhi through Rajasthan, from where he realised the arrears of the tributes from Kota, Bundi and Jaipur. On December 17, Ram Singh met Raghunath Rao through Jayappa for help against his cousin, Bijay Singh. Accordingly a promise for help was made by the Maratha leader. As soon as the affairs of Delhi were over, on June 23, 1754, Raghunath asked Sindia to go to Marwar and restore Ram Singh on the throne of Jodhpur. Jayappa proceeded on his mission via Bundi, where he was entertained by its ruler Umed Singh.<sup>2</sup> He was later on joined by his son Jankoji and his brother Dattaji.<sup>3</sup> Sindia also secured armed help from the ruler of Kota.<sup>4</sup>

The Maratha invasion hurried political activity among the leading nobles, officials and Bijay Singh. An emergency meeting was called by the Maharaja in the fort to meet the Maratha danger. The nobles led by Champat Devi Singh, Calla Uday Singh, Udaot Keshar Singh, Mertia Javan Singh, Sujaot Uday Singh and *Dewan* Fateh Mal offered their volun-

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1. S.P.D. XXvii 104.

2. Siga Dastoori Basta no. 26. vs. 1810/1753 A. D. BR. (Bundi Record) Rs: 2640.10 were spent for his stay.

3. Ibid.

4. S. S. I. S. I 114-115.

tary services for the defence of the motherland. Bijay Singh was moved by the determination of the nobility and he asked Parihar Lalpat to mobilise the army at the earliest<sup>1</sup>

The cause of Jodhpur house was also taken up by Gaj Singh of Bikaner and Bahadur Singh of Kishangarh. They personally led their armies to join their brother at Merta.<sup>2</sup> Madho Singh of Jaipur asked his general Rao Mohan Singh to thwart the march of Sindia through the Jaipur territory.<sup>3</sup> Bijay Singh sent 5,000 force to be stationed at Ajmer, to meet the Marathas beyond the frontier of Marwar.<sup>4</sup>

The ten thousand Maratha force made headway towards Ajmer. The first Rathor-Maratha skirmish took place at Gangrade near Ajmer. The Rathors could not match the superior strength of the Marathas. They retreated in the interior of the country at Merta with a view to giving a determined opposition to the enemy. Their strength increased with the arrival of the forces from Bikaner and Kishangarh. Jayappa occupied Ajmer without much opposition. He stayed for sometime at Pushkar. In the beginning of September, he along with Ram Singh and his twelve to fifteen thousand adherents marched on to Merta. The encounter took place on September 14, on the plains of the city. A heavy play of artillery and attacks of cavalry was in action for the whole of the day. The Rathor leaders could not stand the Maratha onslaught. All the three rulers of the Rathor clan, Bijay Singh, Gaj Singh and Bahadur Singh fled, leaving

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1. Bijay Vilas pp. 122-129.

2. Marwar Khyat iii pp. 1-2.

3. A letter from Madho Singh to Mohan Singh dated nil vs. 1811/1754 (KS) Jp.

4. S.P.D, XXvii 68.

Jayappa and Ram Singh to enter the city of Merta in triumph on September 17. and loot it for three hours.<sup>1</sup>

Ram Singh had won the first round of the succession war. Bijay Singh, though defeated, did not surrender. He fell back in the strong-hold of Nagor and began to reinforce himself. The finances to meet the exigencies were arranged with the *Bohras* of Gudla and Nandwana.<sup>2</sup> Jayappa pursued him and invested the fort on October 31.<sup>3</sup>

The Maratha leader cut off all means of communications and supply of provisions to Nagor.<sup>4</sup> Maratha-Ram Singh forces were stationed at Indanas in between Nagor and Jodhpur in order to obstruct any help coming to Bijay Singh from that side.<sup>5</sup> Purohit Jagan Nath accompanied by Jankoji Sindia and Santaji Bavle proceeded to Jodhpur, where they encamped at Abhay-sagar and invested the fort with heavy mines.<sup>6</sup> Ajmer fort

1. S.P.D. (New Series) I 177. The date of the battle of Merta is Sept. 14, Marwar-Khyat supports this date (iii-pp. 3-6);  
S.P.D. ii 35; xxi 60, XXvii 68, 79, 108.  
Ait. Patren ii 122, 124;  
S.S.I.S. I. pp. 99-124.  
Rajwade : I 37, 39.  
A letter from Ram Singh to Bhawani Singh of Danta dated 4th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1810/-June 24, 1754. (published in Varda' Vol iv p. 9)
2. A letter from Bijay Singh to Bohras of Nandwana (Dist. Nagor) dated 14th day of the bright-half of Margasirsha vs. 1811/Nov. 28, 1754; to Bohras of Gudla dated 8th day of the bright-half of Magha vs. 1811/Jan. 5, 1755. A.B. iv pp. 285-286.
3. S.P.D. XXi 67;  
Marwar Khyat Vol. iii p 7; Dayal Das Khyat Vol. ii Leaf 79.
4. S.P.D. XXI 67.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid; Hingane Daftar I 109;  
Mundiyad Khyat (Bijay Singh) p. 46 Basta no. 20. Jd.

was already facing Maratha onslaught and its surrender was imminent in the beginning of 1755.<sup>1</sup> A Maratha force along with the participants of Ram Singh was sent to capture the strong-fort of Jalor, where the treasures of Jodhpur rulers had been kept safely for centuries.<sup>2</sup> The surrender of Bijay Singh and capitulation of Nagor was 'a matter of few days only' as Jayappa wrote to the Peshwa in January, 1755.<sup>3</sup>

The Peshwa had given specific instructions to Jayappa to be followed in Marwar. He did not regard the desert country so profitable to pay off his debts in comparison to the fertile land of the rivers, east of Delhi. Raghunath Rao was already sent to collect money from the rich provinces of Oudh and Allahbad but he required additional numbers to reap the harvest at the time of the accession of Shuja-ud-Daula on the throne of Oudh. So the Peshwa wrote to Jayappa to finish the Marwar campaign immediately and proceed to join Raghunath Rao. He advised his general to conclude the Marwar action giving Bijay Singh, his father's portion and to Ram-Singh, his parental dominions or even dividing the Marwar kingdom equally between the two. The Peshwa was not in favour of crushing Bijay Singh altogether, because that would have kept 'the Maratha army engaged in Marwar till eternity.' What he desired was to 'satisfy Ram Singh some how, by placing four or five Rathors chieftains under him.' Agreeing to the instructions of the Peshwa to go to Raghunath Rao, Jayappa assured him that he would soon make arrangements

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1. S.P.D. XXvii 105.

2. S.P.D. XXi 60; XXvii 107;

Hingane Daftar I 109;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 7-8;

3. S.P.D. XXi 67.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

at Kashi; Prayag and Gwalior but he would finish the Marwar campaign first, which was the matter of a few days only. It was his first independent campaign in Rajputana, which he did not want to leave unaccomplished.<sup>1</sup>

During the first four months of the siege, Jayappa pressed hard for a successful termination of the campaign. The fort of Jalore was captured by a body of Ram Singh's partisans in the beginning of 1755.<sup>2</sup> Ajmer surrendered to the Maratha arms on February 21, 1755.<sup>3</sup> Jodhpur was closely invested by a combined Rathor-Maratha force under Jagan Nath Purohit and Santaji Bable<sup>4</sup> besides Jankoji. In March, Raghunath Rao, having freed himself from the Rohillas and the Pathans of the Duab, reached Pushkar<sup>5</sup> with the intention to go to Nagor through Sambhar.<sup>6</sup> Holkar and Sakha Ram Bapu had also proceeded towards Nagor and stationed themselves at Sambhar.<sup>7</sup> The military pressure on Bijay Singh was highlighted by the draught and heavy cost of life inside the city and fort of Nagor. Out of two big tanks, which were supplying water to the inmates and defenders of the fort, one dried in March, 1755. Men began to quit the city, The prices of the main articles of consumption rose high. Wheat was sold at thirteen seers a rupee; salt at one and a half seers, firewood and grass were totally unobtainable.<sup>8</sup> The warrior spirit of the defenders slack-

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1. S P.D. XXi 67, 69; XXvii 105, 107;

Ait. Patren 125; 127, 131;

Rajwade Vol. vi 327, 341.

2. S P.D. XXi 69; XXvii 107.

3. S.P.D. XXvii 105.

4. Ibid. 106.

5. Ibid. 105

6. Ibid. 107.

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid XXi 69.

kened with the non-availability of opium, the price of which rose to twenty rupees a seer.<sup>1</sup> It led Bijay Singh to talk for the terms of peace to Jayappa. He sent Gosain Bijay Bharti to him. The negotiations dragged on to fix the payment of rupees fifty lacs as demanded by the Maratha leader in early March.<sup>2</sup> Gosain approached Raghunath Rao at Sambhar to interfere and make settlement between his master, Bijay Singh and Jayappa.<sup>3</sup> It was not liked by Sindia, whose attitude made Raghunath and Holkar leave him alone by proceeding towards Rupnagar.<sup>4</sup> Nothing was settled and the siege dragged on.<sup>5</sup>

With the approach of summer, with all its intense heat in Marwar, the tide began to turn against Jayappa. News reached Nagor that Jalor was regained by the supporters of Bijay Singh.<sup>6</sup> Jodhpur held out by the *Thakur* of Harsolav, Champat Surat Singh and Sobhaot Goyand Das.<sup>7</sup> It encouraged Bijay Singh to continue the struggle inspite of the deepening privation, hunger and thirst.<sup>8</sup> Jayappa began to feel the scarcity of water at Nagor so he withdrew seven miles southward and encamped at Tausar lake.<sup>9</sup> The units of the army of Bijay Singh stationed at different parts of Marwar, began to unite

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1. Ibid.

2. Ibid;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 7-8;

The Khyat mentions that the negotiations were carried through Jait Singh Rawat, the Mewar envoy in the camp of Jayappa at Tausar.

3. S.P.D. XXvii 107.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid 106.

6. S.P.D. XXi 69.

7. Ibid XXvii 106;

Marwaa-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 7-8.

8. Rajwade Vol. I. 44

S.P.D. XXi 69 XXvii 106.

9. S.P.D. XXvii 106.

and preparations were made to pour down on the Marathas on all sides at a time.<sup>1</sup> Jayappa sent Khanaji Jadav to strengthen the Maratha position at Jodhpur,<sup>2</sup>

The long stand of the siege was so formidable that the Maratha general had to ask for reinforcement from Raghunath Rao.<sup>3</sup> This formidable strength also influenced the other Rajput chiefs to come to the aid of Bijay Singh in order to give it a form of a very strenuous war.<sup>4</sup> The Marathas were pressed hard. Rainy season was at hand. No reinforcement from the Deccan was possibly coming. Peace negotiations dragged on and could not reach a conclusion.<sup>5</sup> The position was that neither the Marathas could take Nagor nor the Rajputs could clear their land from the Marathas. The Rathors, finding no other alternative to achieve their end, succumbed to the mean method of murdering Jayappa Sindia through a planned device on July 24, 1755.<sup>6</sup>

1 Ibid 112.

2 Ibid.

3. Ibid.

4. A Kharita from Maharaja of Bikaner to Madho Singh of Jaipur dated 6th day of the bright-half of the first Jyeshtha vs. 1811/17th May 1755. (KS) Jp ;

A Kharita (draft) from Madho Singh to Bijay Singh dated 30th day of the dark-half of the second Jyeshtha vs. 1812/9th June 1755. Jp.

5. S.P.D. XXvii 116.

6. S.P.D. ii. 48; XXvii. 116;

Aiti. Patren 139, 141;

S.S.I.S. Vol. iii 320;

Chahar Guljar (Elliot and Dowson Vol. viii p. 210).

The Persian sources believe that the murder was due to provocation, Jayappa had abused Bijay Singh. The Rajput sources ( Tod: Vol, ii p. 873; Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv pp- 3649-3652; Marwar-Khyat Vol iii pp. 8-9 ) give the details of the plan of the murder (exaggerated)

Planned murder of the Deccanis was not new to the Rathors. Abhay Singh had also removed Pilaji Gaikwar in 1732 by the same technique Jayappa was crameated at Tausar. A beautiful cenotaph was built over Jayappa's ashes ( see the picture facing page 297.)

The murder of their leader did not demoralise the Maratha army. On the other hand they determined to make an end of the Rathor independence. Jankoji Sindia, son of Jayappa was elevated to the leadership and his uncle, Dattaji infused vigour among the *Deccani* soldiers, thus the situation was brought under control.<sup>1</sup> Dattaji wrote to Antaji Mankeshwar, who was in Bundelkhand at that time, to come immediately to Marwar.<sup>2</sup> Regarding the defeat of the Marathas in Marwar as a great blow to their position in north India, Antaji rushed towards Nagor in the first week of September, 1755, with a combined force of Jajavi Vithal Shiva Deo, Naro Shankar and Raja Gopal Singh Jat totalling to ten thousand.<sup>3</sup>

Bijay Singh tried to organise a confederacy of the Emperor, the Jats, the Rohillas and the other Rajput rulers to drive the Marathas out of North India altogether. He sent his agent to Delhi and through the *Wazir* presented five lacs to the Emperor, begging him to take the field against the Marathas and promising to pay him rupees 10,000 for each day of the march and to join him with the Rajput forces. The Emperor summoned his vassal-chiefs but did not take the field owing to the Abdali danger.<sup>4</sup> The Rajput chiefs made a common cause with the Rathor ruler. Gaj Singh of Bikaner and Madho Singh of Jaipur had already moved in June and were now active to liberate Rajasthan from the Deccani domination.<sup>5</sup>

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1. S.P.D. XXvii 116.

The Maratha fury ran high. The negotiators and the Mewar envoy were put to sword. A sense of revenge prevailed in the army.

2. S.P.D. ii 52, 56; XXi 70.

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid XXvii 119

5. Ibid;

A Kharita from Gaj Singh of Bikaner to Madho Singh of Jaipur dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1812/21st Nov. 1755 (KS)Jp.



Bijay Singh also sent overtures to Ahmad Shah Abdali inviting him to make with him a common cause to drive the Marathas from his land<sup>1</sup> Abdali accepted the call and deputed the *Subahdar* of Multan to proceed towards Marwar and help Bijay-Singh.<sup>2</sup>

Maharaja Madho Singh deputed his general, Anurudh Singh Khangarot to join Bijay Singh. He, along with the forces of Umed Singh of Shahpura, Babadur Singh of Rupnagar Gopal Singh of Karauli and the Hadas of Bundi, making a total of 25,000 to 30,000 men and a strong artillery, moved to wards Ramgarh<sup>3</sup>, in order to join Bijay Singh. But a Maratha force under Ranoji Bhoite routed them near Chandol on October 10, 1755,<sup>4</sup> forcing them to talk for peace,<sup>5</sup> In the meantime, a Bikaner contingent under *Dewan* Bakhtawar Mal, having joined by Bijay Singh's forces at Nagor, proceeded to join Anurudh Singh.<sup>6</sup> On this, the Jaipur general broke the peace settlement and left Ramgarh to make a junction<sup>7</sup> with the Bikaner army. Lest the two wings of the Rajput coalition should unite, Bhoite, Narsingh Sindia and Khanaji, who had come from Jodhpur, made a violent night-attack on October 16, on the army of the Rajputs and forced Anurudh Singh to flee and take refuge in the fort of Didwana, from

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1. A farman from Ahmad Shah Abdali to Bijay Singh dated 17th safar 1169H/11th November 1755 (No. 14) Jd.

2. Ibid.

3. S.P.D. XXi 74, 77; XXvii 117.  
Ramgarh is 38 miles E. of Didwana.

4. S.P.D. XXi 77; XXvii 117.

5. Ibid. XXi 74.

6. Ibid.

7. Ibid.

where he dared not to move out,<sup>1</sup> The Bikaner force rushed towards Didwana,<sup>2</sup> but the same fate fell on the army coming to the aid of Anurudh Singh. The Marathas defeated the Bikaner-Jodhpur army led by Dewan Bakhtawar Mal at Daulatpura<sup>3</sup> and cut all means of communications and supply of provisions to the Rajput force at Didwana.<sup>4</sup> The efforts of the participants of Bijay Singh at Jalor, along with the troops from the north west of Jodhpur to raise the siege of Jodhpur failed as the Jalor forces were defeated at Godawas, thirty two miles north-east of Jalor. There was no hope of the Rajput coalition getting success, when Antaji Mankeshwar reached near Didwana in the first week of November.<sup>5</sup> Even the personal visit of Bijay Singh to Bikaner<sup>6</sup> could not save the situation. Madho Singh had decided to come to terms with the Marathas for which talks had already been initiated by Anurudh Singh on October 31, 1755.<sup>7</sup> Hence, Madho Singh refused to help Bijay Singh henceforth.<sup>8</sup> Bijay Singh decided to approach the Emperor once again but was discouraged. He found the Imperial court entangled in party squabbles.<sup>9</sup> At Nagor, Jankoji

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1. S.P.D. ii 50, 51; XXi 75, 77. He reached in the fort on October 20.
  2. A Kharita from Maharaja of Bikaner to Madho Singh dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1812/21st Nov. 1755 (KS) Jp.
  3. S.P.D. XXi 77.  
Daulatpura is 5 miles S.E. of Didwana.
  4. Ibid.
  5. Ibid. 80
  6. S.P.D. (New Series) Vol. I 186;  
A Kharita from Maharaja of Bikaner to Madho Singh dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1812/21st Nov. 1755. (KS). Jp.
  7. S.P.D. XXi 77, 80;  
Ibid (New Series) Vol. I 186.
  8. Ibid (New Series) Vol. I 186.
  9. Ibid.

and Dattaji continued the siege.<sup>1</sup> Madho Singh's offer to mediate between the Rathors and the Marathas was rejected by Bijay Singh.<sup>2</sup> The Peshwa asked Naro Shankar to relieve Sindia in Marwar.<sup>3</sup> A Maratha pressure on Jodhpur was forced on in January, 1756.<sup>4</sup>

**(C) Bijay Singh-Sindia agreement, February, 1756 and the loss of Ajmer.**

Feeling that it was not possible to gain the Rajput and Mughal aid anymore, Bijay Singh returned to Nagor in December and reopened the peace parleys with Dattaji Sindia in January, 1756.<sup>5</sup> The Marathas, too, had no fair prospects due to the long siege and the famine conditions prevailing in the beginning of 1756 in Marwar.<sup>6</sup> Therefore they were willing to conclude an agreement with Bijay Singh. The treaty was signed in February, 1756.<sup>7</sup>

According to it, the fort of Ajmer, Garh Bitli and the territory round it were ceded to the Marathas. A war indemnity of fifty lacs was imposed on Bijay Singh. Out of this

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1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.

3. S.P.D. XXvii 119.

4. Ibid. XXI 82,

5. Ibid. Singhvi Fateh Chand, the Dewan and Champaot Devi Singh the Pradhan were sent to negotiate the peace Mundiya Khyat ( Bijay Singh ) p. 56.

6. Ibid.

7. Ibid;

Aiti. patren 142;

Dayal Das-Khyat Vol.ii Leaf 82. It dates the agreement on February 2, 1756.

amount, rupees twenty five lacs were to be paid within the year and the rest in the two years instalments. A regular tribute from the Maharaja was fixed at rupees 1,50,000 annually. Ram Singh secured half of the territory of Marwar, which included Jalor, Sambhar, Marot, Sojat, Parbatsar and eighty four villages of Kekri in Ajmer, while Jodhpur, Nagor and Merta remained under Bijay Singh.<sup>1</sup> It was also insisted, as revealed by a letter from Jankoji to Bijay Singh dated June 26, 1756, that the Maharaja would keep his contingent at Ajmer for its defence, at his cost.<sup>2</sup> The Marathas agreed that if Ram Singh tried to interfere in the portion of the territory under Bijay Singh the latter would be free to take retaliatory measures against Ram Singh without infringing the Maratha interest in the territory of Ram Singh.<sup>3</sup>

A separate treaty was signed between Ram Singh and Sindia, by which Ram Singh agreed to allow Maratha *Kamvisdar* to stay in his territory in order to collect the daily money from custom out posts. The Marathas and Ram Singh were to share the money equally.<sup>4</sup>

Having concluded the peace, and appointed Sadashiva as *Kamvisdar* with Ram Singh,<sup>5</sup> Dattaji repaired to Merta and

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1. S.P.D. XXi 82-84, XXvii 128;  
Hingane Daftar I 189;  
Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali pp 407-408. vv. 455-462;  
Marwar Khyat iii p. 12.
  2. Jankoji to Bijay Singh dated 14th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1813/June 26, 1756 Pf 6. file No. 108/12. Jd.
  3. Bijay Singh to Anand Rao Bable dated 9th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1816/June 22, 1760. AB. iv p. 91. Jd. Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 408. vv. 665.
  4. Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 408 vv. 665.
  5. Ibid.

thence moved towards Rupnagar in April.<sup>1</sup> Thus ended the Sindia's attack on Marwar, which had begun in 1752. The long Maratha campaign had divided the Rathor land into two parts, roughly a line of demarcation can be drawn from Sambhar to Jalor, east of which was in Ram Singh's possession and west of which was Bijay Singh's territory.<sup>2</sup> It also made Bijay Singh a tributary of the Marathas. But the hereditary throne passed into the hands of the second line of the family legalised under Maratha arms.

**(D) The Rathor attitude towards the Marathas on the eve of the battle of Panipat (January, 1761) and after.**

Five years of civil war, forced upon by the Marathas on the ruler of Jodhpur, brought the economy of the country to a ruinous state. The treasury was empty; the crown lands remained uncultivated; the peasantry dispersed and commerce diminished owing to the insecure conditions and pillage. The ruinous wars and negotiations dissipated the hoard of wealth accumulated by the rulers of Marwar. The peace agreement made Bijay Singh's position more pitiable: The treasure heard of Jalor was now under the possession of Ram Singh. The frontier post of Ajmer with its garh Bitli (Taragarh), the mineral wealth of Sambhar and the fertile land of south-east Marwar, all had been taken from him. He remained the ruler of the capital and the desert territories of Marwar. Ram Singh secured half of the dominions but was not satisfied. He continued to assert his rights with the same obstinacy by which he lost them.<sup>3</sup>

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1. S.P.D. XXi. 84, 85.

2. See map facing page 103.

3. A Kharita from Ram Singh to Madho Singh dated 4th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1814/May 26, 1758 Jp.

The financial burden thrust on Bijay Singh by the agreement of February, 1756, indicates that it was a purchased peace. The paying of the first instalment was a heavy pressure on the empty exchequer of Jodhpur and the subsequent instalments to be paid within next two years were sure to bring an unbalanced state of the finances in Marwar. Hence, in order to re-adjust the tribute, the Maharaja sent his ministers to wait upon Raghunath Rao, when the latter visited Rajputana on his way to Delhi and the Punjab in June, 1757 and request him to put pressure on Sindia to revise the sum on reasonable terms.<sup>1</sup> Raghunath Rao refused to entertain such overtures as he felt that it would bring unnecessary interference in the matters of Sindia..<sup>2</sup>

In the middle of 1758, Jankoji Sindia also came towards Rajputana.<sup>3</sup> Bijay Singh sent his men again to wait upon him at Kota to try for the resettlement of the tribute.<sup>4</sup> Raghunath Rao wanted Jankoji to leave Rajputana immediately and proceed to Delhi, but the Sindia remained at Kota throughout July and August. He made his arrangements of the tribute with the Jaipur ruler and thought of proceeding to Marwar in September. However, on receipt of the news from Antaji Mankeshwar to hurry up to Delhi and not to proceed to Marw-

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1. Rajwade Vol. I 66.

2. Ibid.

Raghoba also found Bijay Singh harrasing Govind Krishnaji, governor of Ajmer, continuously to the extent that the Peshwa asked Antaji Mankeshwar in February 1758 to proceed to Ajmer and save the situation (S.P.D. ii 87).

3. A Kharita from Maharaja of Kishangarh to Bijay Singh dated 14th day of the bright-half of Vaisaka vs. 1814/21st May 1758. Jd. Pf. 4 File No. 8/11.

4. Ibid.

ar, he dropped his further march from Pushkar. He stayed for a long period there to collect the promised tribute from Bijay-Singh. The Jodhpur agents, Pahar Singh, Barhat Karnidan and Vyas Gulab Rai tried for a new settlement with him, but they failed. Bijay Singh had no alternative but to convey the acceptance of the old terms, for he feared, further estrangement at this stage would give Ram Singh an opportunity of bringing Jankoji to Marwar once again.<sup>1</sup>

Bijay Singh waited for another opportunity to press his point and gain not only the relaxation for the payment of the tribute but also to regain the lost territories. In August 1759, Ahmad Shah Abdali crossed the Indus, driving the Marathas before him. As Ahmad Shah moved towards Duab in September he sent messages to Bijay Singh and Madho Singh to make common cause with him against the Marathas.<sup>2</sup> In December he asked the Rathor chief to join him with a contingent.<sup>3</sup>

The Marathas were not unaware of Abdali-Rathor overtures. As early as February 1757, Raja Keshav Rao reported to the Peshwa that Jodhpur ruler was more inclined to serve Abadali than the Marathas.<sup>4</sup> And again on November 22, 1759, Govind Rao Ballal informed Sada Shiva Rao Bhau

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1. A Kharita from Ram Singh to Madho Singh dated 4th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1814/26th May 1758. Jp.; S.P.D. ii 94, 95, 96, 101; XXvii 230, 236; A letter from Bijay Singh to Anand Rao Bable dated 12th day of the bright-half of Kartika vs. 1815/12th November 1758. AB. No. 4. p. 90 Jd.
  2. Farman from Ahmad Shah to Madho Singh dated 17th Muharram 1173H/Sept 10, 1759. KS. Jp.
  3. Farman (No. 15) from Ahmad Shah to Bijay Singh dated 19th Rabi-ul-akhir 1173H/December 10, 1759 Jd.; S.P.D. ii 106.
  4. S.P.D. XXi 101.

## THE RATHOR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE MARATHAS

that Bijay Singh had decided that if Abdali came, he would join him and overthrow the Maratha influence in the North.<sup>1</sup> The Marathas did not fully gauge the Abdali danger till Dattaji Sindia fell fighting at Barari Ghat on January 1, 1760. Anand Rao Bable, the minister of Sindia lost no time and contacted Bijay Singh to send help to the Marathas.<sup>2</sup> Bijay Singh took advantage of the situation. He sent his agent Barhat Karnidan to Bable to decide the condition of help,<sup>3</sup> but at the same time he assured Abdali of his inclination to join him.<sup>4</sup>

Bijay Singh wanted to regain the lost territory. It was the opportune time. He rightly judged that Sindia, being too busy against Abdali would not support Ram Singh, if he annexed his possession. Hence, on the pretext that Ram Singh's officials had interfered in his territory, in June, 1760, Bijay Singh began annexation of the territories parcelled out to Ram Singh under the agreement of 1756.<sup>5</sup> The opposition from Jaipur ruler was already overcome by fostering a common policy towards Abdali and the Marathas during their forthcoming contest and signing an agreement with him not to help each other's enemies.<sup>6</sup>

In the meantime, protracted negotiations were carried on between Karnidan and Jankoji. It took a long time before

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1. S.P.D, XXXX 126.
  2. Bijay Singh to Anand Rao dated 11th day of the dark-half of Magha vs. 1816/Jan. 13, 1760. AB iv. p. 91. Jd.
  3. Ibid.
  4. A Kharita from Madho Singh to Rana Raj Singh of Udaipur dated 14th day of the bright-half of Phalguna vs. 1816/February 26, 1760 (KS) Jp.
  5. Bijay Singh to Anand Rao dated 9th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1816/June 22, 1760. AB iv p. 91.
  6. A copy of Qaulnama between Madho Singh and Bijay Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of Phalguna vs. 1816/February 24, 1760. KS. Jp.



## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

an agreement was signed. Bijay Singh ratified it in January 1791.<sup>1</sup> According to it in lieu of Rathor support against Abdali, Jankoji promised not to help Ram Singh. He also assured that in case the latter attacked Marwar, Sindia's force would aid the Maharaja.<sup>2</sup> Bijay Singh, thus, had won the bargain. However, he remained neutral during the Maratha-Abdali struggle for the supremacy of North India culminating into the battle of Panipat on January 14, 1761. The reason was obvious, as Raja Keshav Rao wrote to the Peshwa that the Rathor chief could not ignore the powerful Abdali and at the same time he was afraid of the opening of the hostilities with the Marathas.<sup>3</sup>

The annihilation of the Marathas at the battle of Panipat had its repercussions on the Rathors. Abdali sent a letter on February 20 to Bijay Singh to come to him with the tribute; in return, he assured him his cooperation against the Marathas, if they troubled him again.<sup>4</sup> Abdali did not stay for long in India. He left in March, 1761. Taking advantage of it, Ram-Singh, with the support of Madho Singh, prepared for an attack on Bijay Singh in May, 1761.<sup>5</sup> He strengthened his position

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1. An agreement between Bijay Singh and Jankoji Sindia dated 9th day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1817/Jan. 15, 1761. Pf. 6. File no 108/12 Jd, The date of this agreement is ambiguous. Jankoji had fallen on 14th January 1761 at the battle of Panipat. Hence, the agreement was not entered into after his death. It was done before the battle and might have reached Jodhpur just on the eve of the battle. Bijay Singh would have ratified it on 15th January 1761. He did not know by this time the results of the battle.

2. Ibid.

3. S.P.D. XXi 187.

4. A farman from Ahmad Shah Abdali to Bijay Singh dated 25th Rajab 1174H/20th February 1761, Jd.

5. S.P.D. (New series) Vol I. 246

by securing the cooperation of Champaot, Kumpaot and Shekhaors Rathors and Kachhwahas.<sup>1</sup> He further solicited the help of the Marathas.<sup>2</sup> In the beginning of July, Khanaji Jadav invaded Marwar, established military posts at two to four places and encamped at Pipar, near Jodhpur.<sup>3</sup> Though Bijay-Singh fortified his position with utmost care and security,<sup>4</sup> he sent his agent Jagan Nath to Raghunath Rao for help.<sup>5</sup> Govind Krishna, the Maratha agent in the North, wrote on July 6. to Raghunath Rao not to entertain the Rathor *Vakils* at the cost of the prestige of Sindia.<sup>6</sup> In the meantime the danger from Madho Singh increased to such an extent that the Peshwa had to write to Malhar Rao to take an expedition against him in cooperation with Bijay Singh of Marwar.<sup>7</sup> As the rainy season had set in, Malhar postponed his visit to Rajputana.<sup>8</sup> Late in October, 1761, Madho Singh assumed the offensive by sending champaot Shyam Singh and Ram Singh towards Sambhar, whereupon, 'Bijay Singh proceeded towards Merta'.<sup>9</sup> In the meantime Khanaji Jadav withdrew from Marwar to join Holkar<sup>10</sup>. Holkar marched from Indore in early November and after contacting the Rathor chief for help<sup>11</sup>, routed the

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1. Ibid.
  2. Ibid.
  3. S.P.D. XXvii 275.
  4. S.P.D. (New Series) Vol. I 246.
  5. S.P.D. XXvii 275.
  6. Ibid.
  7. Ibid 269.
  8. Ibid.
  9. Ibid XXix 17.
  10. Ibid XXi 92-94; XXix 27.
  11. A Kharita from the Maharaja of Kishangarh to Bijay Singh dated 3rd day of the bright-half of the Margasirsha vs. 1818/29th Nov. 1761. Pf. No. 4. File No. 8/11. Jd; S.P.D. XXix 27.

army of Madho Singh near Mangrol on November 29, 1761<sup>1</sup>. Though the Marathas received a set-back at the battle of Panipat yet they were successful in making a mark and taking a prominent part during the renewal of the conflict between Bijay Singh and Ram Singh. Hereafter Ram Singh was out of the picture and the last effort brought a discomfiture to him. He quitted Marwar for good and the remaining part of his life he passed at Jaipur, where he died in 1772<sup>2</sup>.

### (E) Regular visits of Maratha leaders to Marwar.

When Bijay Singh became free from Ram Singh, he consolidated his power and attempted to reoccupy Ajmer, but he failed in it and had to agree to pay an amount of three lacs of rupees to the Marathas<sup>3</sup>, though he was reluctant to pay it<sup>4</sup>. Bijay Singh's designs on Ajmer opened the eyes of Sindia and he sent a fresh Maratha force under Babu Rao for the defence of Ajmer against any probable attacks<sup>5</sup>. Henceforth, Bijay Singh tried to keep the Marathas in good humour by sending contingents whenever demanded<sup>6</sup>. When Holkar visited Jaipur in 1764, Madho Singh wanted Bijay Singh's help,

1. S.P.D. XXix 27.  
Mangrol is 35 miles N.E. of Kota,
2. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii p. 48;
3. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 34-37
4. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 4th day of the dark-half of Karttika vs. 1820/26th Oct. 1763. AB. No. 4. P. 24. Jd.
5. A letter from Bijay Singh to Santoji Bable dated 1st day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1819/2nd Nov. 1762 AB. No. 4. p. 80. Jd.
6. A letter from Bijay Singh to Pt. Gangadhar dated 10th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1820/9th June 1764; A letter from Bijay Singh to Patel Babu Rao dated 2nd day of the bright-half of Magha vs. 1821/23rd Jan. 1765. AB. No. 4 p. 17, 76 respectively, Jd.

## THE RATHOR ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE MARATHAS

but the Rathor chief refused to comply with the request<sup>1</sup>. Holker also required the Rathor aid against the English, against whom he had gone as Nawab of Oudh, Shuja-ud-Daula's helper<sup>2</sup>. But the Rathor chief could not spare his forces, as he feared a fresh attack on him from Sindhia in the middle of 1765<sup>3</sup>.

Bijay Singh put his house in order. The military base at Merta was reinforced. Defence of Sambhar was made strong<sup>4</sup>. In November, 1765, Sindia made preparations of war against Bijay Singh as he was not paying the tribute regularly. A change was made in the administration of Ajmer. The responsibility for it was handed over to Govind Krishna in place of Bapuji Takpir by *Dewan Achyut Ganesh*. The *Dewan* undertook to make an assault on Marwar to collect the tribute from Bijay Singh. In the meantime Yaswant Rao Bable attempted to adjust the matters through Charan Ala Karan and intervened. An agreement to pay rupees ten lacs was concluded with the *Dewan*. Bijay Singh ratified it and gave bonds for the tribute due and thus averted the invasion. Before Achyut could collect any portion of this money, he had to hasten to Jaipur to help Madho Singh against the combined Sikh-Jat army<sup>5</sup>. A part of the tribute was sent to Mahadaji in bonds. The task of the collection of the rest of the tribute fell on Khanaji Jadav, who,

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1. A letter from *Dewan Surat Ram* to *Dalel Singh* of Jaipur dated 4th day of the dark-half of *Sravana* vs 1821/17th July 1764. AB No. 4 p. 244 Jd.
  2. A letter from *Bijay Singh* to *Pt. Gangadhar* dated 6th day of the dark-half of *Ashadha* vs. 1821/9th June 1765. AB, No. 4, p. 17. Jd.
  3. Ibid.
  4. S.P.D. XXix 81.
  5. Ibid 99; 102.

with a force of five to seven thousand, entered Marwar in May, 1766, molested Nawa and created disturbances. Bijay Singh sent his *Dewan* Surat Ram to pursue Khanaji, who was, then, pushed back towards Ajmer. The *Dewan* encamped at Pisaagan. Then negotiations to pay the rest of the amount began. It was decided that the amount already paid to Mahadaji would not be paid.<sup>1</sup>

The whole of Rajputana was disturbed at the regular Maratha inroads in this part of north India. The Marathas fully utilised the weakness of the rulers and made heavy demands, which were beyond the state finances to meet. The technique adopted by them was unique. They generally entered into an agreement for the payment of the tribute, took a part of it on the spot, agreeing to take the rest by instalments, which were often delayed. If they were not paid or any delay was made in the payment, it gave them chance for further inroads into their territory. They had no fixed principles for freindship. They changed sides to meet their selfish ends. The result was that at heart no Rajput Prince was happy with them, Bijay Singh of Jodhpur was heavily affected by their yearly inroads. Matters grew worse when Sindhia pressed hard, for the supply of a Rathor force to him<sup>2</sup>. To meet its expenses and to pay the amount of the tribute, the Maharaja had to raise money by fresh taxation<sup>3</sup>. Bijay Singh also borrowed money from local

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1. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 12th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1822/4th June 1766. AB. No. 4 p. 24 Jd.; S.P.D. XXix pp. 105-106; L. 128; Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 40-41;
  2. Nawa is 27°1'N 75°1'E, on the Northern edge of Sambhar lake.
  3. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 10th day of the dark-half of Magha vs. 1823/25th Jan. 1667. AB. No. 4 p. 26. Jd.
  3. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii p. 41.  
The Maharaja introduced the tax of 'Rekh Bab';

creditors, who charged exorbitant rate of interest<sup>1</sup>. Hence, when the Raja Jawahar Singh of Bharatpur wrote to Bijay Singh for a joint-alliance against the Marathas, he welcomed the move. Both of them met at Pushkar on November 6, 1767, exchanged turbans and entered into a family relationship. They agreed to drive the Marathas, not only out of Rajputana but Malwa also. They also requested Maharaja Madho Singh of Jaipur to co-operate with them but he refused. Both of them measured swords with the Marathas, who were supported by Jaipur ruler, on December 14, 1767 at Maonda, where they were defeated. The Rathor force fled and was closely pursued by the Marathas upto Parbatsar from where Dewan Surat Ram purchased their retreat<sup>2</sup>.

### (F) Bijay Singh annexes Godwad.

As a result of this defeat Bijay Singh had to side with Sindia, when the latter was requested by the nobles of Mewar to support the cause of Ratan Singh against Maharana Ari Singh<sup>3</sup>. In May, 1769, when Mahadaji Sindia and Tukoji

1. A letter from Bijay Singh to Bohras of Nandwana dated 30th day of the dark-half of Pausha vs. 1823/31st Dec. 1766; AB. No. 4. p. 286. Jd.
2. S.P.D. XXix 162, 164, 165;  
Chahar Gulzar (Elliot and Dowson Vol. viii p. 225);  
Vamsh Bhaskar Vol. iv pp. 3720-3727;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 43, 47;  
Parbatsar is 26°53'N 74°46'E, about 12 miles south of Makrana station and close to Kishangarh border.
3. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 12th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1825/5th December 1768. AB. No. 4 p. 26. Jd;  
A letter from Bijay Singh to Bahadur Singh of Kishangarh dated 6th day of the dark-half of Pausha vs. 1825/29th December 1768. AB. No. 4. p. 240. Jd;  
A letter from Maharaja Prithvi Singh to Mahadaji dated 2nd day of the bright-half of Pauhsa vs. 1825/10th Jan. 1769. (KS) Jp.

Holkar appeared near Udaipur,<sup>1</sup> the envoys of Bijay Singh, Chatar Singh, Vyas Gulab Rai and Mehta Lal, waited upon Sindia and paid the tribute and the arrears of the years 1766-1769, amounting to rupees 3,88,835<sup>2</sup>. Bijay Singh also agreed to pay for another three years (1769-1772), the tribute amounting to rupees 5,10,000<sup>3</sup> at the yearly basis of rupees one lac fifty thousand. This included twenty five thousand as *Nazarana*<sup>4</sup>.

Forces of Sindia and Holkar remained at Udaipur for sometime<sup>5</sup> and waited for a favourable opportunity for negotiations with Ari Singh. Mahadaji was, at the same time, watchful in order not to give a chance to Bijay Singh to act independently with Ari Singh<sup>6</sup>. Earlier in March, 1769, Ari Singh had requested Bijay Singh through his uncle Bagh Singh to come to his side<sup>7</sup> but the Rathor ruler, like Sindia, supported Ratan Singh<sup>8</sup>. In July, 1769, Maharana Ari Singh agreed to pay rupees 64 lacs as tribute. In addition to it, Ari Singh had

1. S.P.D. XXix 234; XXXviii 185.
2. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1826/8th June 1769. Pf 6 LN. 8 Jd.
3. Hath Bahi No. 2 pp. 122-123, Jd.  
The total amount fixed was Rs. 5,50,000 out of which 40,000 were remitted by Sindia.
4. Ibid;  
A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1826/8th June 1769. Pf 6, LN. 9. Jd.
5. S.P.D. XXix 239.  
Holkar left his camp on June 2, and marched towards Kota.
6. S.P.D. XXix 238; XXXviii 185.
7. A Kharita from Ari Singh to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1826/16th March 1769. Pf. 3. File No. 3 Kh. 4. Jd.
8. A letter from the nobles of Mewar to Bijay Singh dated 12th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1825/9th Aug. 1768, Pf.3. file No.3 LN.3.Jd.  
The nobles paid 15,00,000 rupees to Bijay Singh. S.P.D. XXXviii 185.

also promised to give rupees one lac twenty five thousand worth of land to Ratan Singh and rupees five lacs to Mahadaji Sindia<sup>1</sup>.

In September 1769, Sindia departed from Mewar, leaving his agents, Govind Rao and Bijay Singh to look after his interest there<sup>2</sup>. The Maratha forces under Govind Rao and the Rathor force sent by Bijay Singh in April, 1770, occupied Godwad<sup>3</sup>. It remained in the possession of Bijay Singh, after the formal grant by Ari Singh<sup>4</sup>. Bijay Singh kept 3,000 force there to safeguard the interest of Maharana Ari Singh<sup>5</sup>. Henceforth, Bijay Singh acted as an agent of Sindia to help the Maharana (Ari Singh). Regular instructions from Sindia bound him to act accordingly. In September, 1770, Sindia asked Bijay Singh to proceed to Mewar to crush the revolt of the Sindi mercenaries there<sup>6</sup>. Sindia directed Bijay Singh on May 30, 1771, that as he and Govind Rao had the joint responsibility regarding the affairs of Mewar and Godwad, he would perform his duties accordingly<sup>7</sup>. He further informed him next day

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1. S.P.D, XXix 243; XXXviii 185.

2. A letter from Govind Rao to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1827/27th June 1770 Pf. 6. LN. 5. Jd.

3. A letter from Surat Ram to Bagh Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1826/17th April 1770. AB. No. 4. p. 179 Jd.;  
A letter from Govind Ram to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1827/27th June 1770. Pf. 6. LN. 5. Jd.

4. A Kharita from Ari Singh to Bijay Singh dated 11th day of the dark-half of Vaisaka vs. 1827/21st April 1770. Pf. 3. File No. 1 Kh. 3. Jd.  
On October 7, 1770, it was ratified (A Kharita from Ari Singh to Bijay Singh. Pf. 3. File No. 1 Kh. 6 Jd.)

5. A letter from Mehta Shri Chand to Kayastha Jasvant Rai dated 13th day of the bright-half of Pausha 1827/30th Dec. 1770. Ud. Rec.

6. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1827/Sept. 1770. Pf. 6. LN. 10. Jd.

7. Ibid-dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1828/30th May 1771. Pf. 6. LN. 13. Jd.



that he would not entertain any overtures from Pandit Visaji or his agents, who were said to have been negotiating with the nobles of Rajasthan to interfere in the affairs of Mewar<sup>1</sup>, Sindia insisted that if such interference came from any corner of Rajasthan, he (Bijay Singh) should force it out of Mewar<sup>2</sup>. Again he wrote to Bijay Singh on October 4, 1771, that if Ratan Singh created any fresh troubles in Mewar, he and Govind Rao would act immediately and settle the matters in terms of the already settled tribute<sup>3</sup>. Bijay Singh informed Mahadaji on February 10, 1772, that he was proceeding to Mewar to act according to his directions<sup>4</sup>. However, Bijay Singh found the affairs of Mewar in confusion, where Holkar interfered in the state affairs<sup>5</sup>. He was not happy over the negotiations, which were being carried on by Ari Singh. He, therefore, leaving Govind Rao and his force in Mewar, returned to Jodhpur in June, 1772.<sup>6</sup>

During these years of confusion the tribute of Marwar remained unpaid. Sindia insisted on March 23, 1772 that if the instalments<sup>7</sup> due, were not paid by June 15, 1772, the

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1. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1828/31st May 1771. Pf. 6, LN, 14, Jd.
  2. Ibid.
  3. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 11th day of the dark-half of Asvina vs. 1828/4th Oct. 1771, Pf. 6, LN, 11, Jd.
  4. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 6th day of the bright-half of Magha vs. 1828/10th Feb. 1772. AB. No. 4, p. 30, Jd.
  5. Ibid-dated 13th day of the dark-half of Chaitra, Vs. 1828/31st March 1772 AB, No. 4, p. 31, Jd.
  6. Ibid-dated 6th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1828/7th June 1772. AB. No. 4, p. 32, Jd.
  7. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1829/23rd March 1772. Pf. 6, letter No. 18, Jd. (the letter No. 19 of the same date contains the same subject matter);

## BIJAY SINGH ANNEXES GODWAD

country would be devastated<sup>1</sup>. However, he assured the Rathor chief that if it was paid in time, no Maratha inroads would take place. If per chance it so happened and the loss was so incurred it would be compensated from the payment<sup>2</sup>. Along with this, Mahadaji also demanded a fourth share in the tribute of Godwad. The amount of it was fixed nearly to rupees 30,000 a year, which included rupees five thousand as *Nazrana* from the year 1773<sup>3</sup>. He made a condition that no share from this amount would be paid either to the Peshwa or Holkar<sup>4</sup>. He deputed Baji Krishna to collect the money from Jodhpur<sup>5</sup>. But nothing came out of it, except that a little portion of it<sup>6</sup> had already been paid to Govind Rao earlier. Sindia threatened Bijay Singh in December, 1772, with severe consequences, if the amount was not paid to Baji Krishna immediately.<sup>7</sup>

In the meantime Ram Singh's death in 1772 brought the affairs of Sambhar<sup>8</sup>, to a crisis. Bijay Singh, occupied the territory of Sambhar, and then requested Sindia to recognise his

The instalments fixed were to be paid in the following manner:-

On 15th day of the bright-half of Chaitra/17th April Rupees 2,00,000;

On 15th day of bright-half of Vaisaka/16th May Rupees 2,50,000 (Cash Rs. 2 lacs. Miscellaneous worth of Rs. 50,000).

On 15th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha/15th June Rupees 1,00,000 (Cash Rs. 50,000. Miscellaneous worth of Rs. 50,000).

1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.

3. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of Chaitra, vs. 1829/23rd March 1772. Pf. 6. LN. 20. Jd.

4. Ibid.

5. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 3rd day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1829/27th December 1772. Pf. 6. LN. 17. Jd.

6. Rupees one lac was paid to Govind Ram in February, 1772. (A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 6th day of the bright-half of Magha, vs. 1828/10th Feb. 1772. AB. No. 4. p. 30. Jd.

7. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 3rd day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1829/27th Dec. 1772. Pf. 6. LN. 17 Jd.

8. Mundiyyad Khyat ( Bijay Singh ) p. 139. Basta 20. Jd.

claim over it<sup>1</sup>. He sent Vyas Gulab Rai on February 27, 1773 to wait upon him<sup>2</sup>, and in lieu of the payment of the tribute, Rathor Badan Singh was sent as hostage to him.<sup>3</sup> Sindia assured the Rathor chief of his co-operation in his designs on Sambhar<sup>4</sup>. The due arrears of the tribute for the years 1769-1772 were paid in two instalments, first on April 30, 1774<sup>5</sup> and then on July 14, 1775<sup>6</sup>.

Bijay Singh was not powerful enough to oppose Sindia's regular demands of the payment of the tribute. At times he paid and at times he evaded, but ultimately had to pay it. His protests to Sindia about his agent Ambaji Ingle's ravaging the territory of Marwar in November, 1776, despite his regular payment, fell on deaf ears and Ingle was paid the due amount of the tribute<sup>7</sup>. The relation with Holkar remained cordial during this period. Bijay Singh made available the white marble stones from Makrana to Ahalya Bai<sup>8</sup> for the construction of her temples.

1. A letter from Bijay Singh to Santoji Bable dated 12th day of the dark-half of Phalgun vs. 1829/18th Feb. 1773. AB. No. 4. p. 81. Jd.
2. A letter of Bijay Singh to Mahadaji Sindia dated 6th day of the bright-half of Phalgun 1829/27th Feb. 1773. AB. No. 4 p. 32. Jd.
3. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1830/June 1773. Pf. No. 6. LN, 25. Jd.
4. Ibid-dated the bright-half of Ashada vs. 1830/June 1773. Pf. 6, LN, 26. Jd.
5. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of Vaisaka/30th April 1774. Pf. 6, LN. 29. Jd;  
Hath Bahi No. 2. pp. 125-126. Jd;  
The amount paid was Rs. 4, 89, 483 and annas seven only.
6. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1832/14th July 1775 Pf 6, LN. 30. Jd.  
Rs. 60, 516 and annas nine were paid.
7. A letter from Surat Ram to Mahadaji dated 5th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1833/16th Nov. 1776. AB. No. 4. p. 264. Jd.
8. Hath Bahi No. 2 p. 127, pp. 131-132. Jd.

## BIJAYSINGH OVERTHROWS MAHADAJI'S DOMINATION

### (G) Bijay Singh overthrows Mahadaji's domination in Rajasthan (1787 A.D.)

Although by intervals he (Bijay Singh) paid the tributes<sup>1</sup>, there developed causes for estranged relation between Mahadaji Sindia and Bijay Singh. Sindia did not like the interference of Bijay Singh in the affairs of Bhinai of Ajmer district and in July, 1780, Mahadaji asked Bijay Singh to withdraw his officials from there<sup>2</sup>. The Rathor-British overtures in 1781<sup>3</sup> were looked upon by Sindia as a move against him as he was not on good terms with the British power at that time<sup>4</sup>. In the Saktavat-Chundavat struggle for power in Mewar in 1784, the rupture was clearly indicated, when Sindia's forces went to fight for the Chundawats and the Rathors supported the cause of the Sakta-

1. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of Magha, vs. 1838/4th Jan. 1782. Pf. 6. LN. 41. Jd.

Rupees 3,60,000 were paid, for the tribute of the years vs 1829 to 1834/1772 to 1777;

Hath Bahi No. 2, pp. 124-125, Jd.

Rupees 4,39,000 were paid for the tribute of the years vs. 1835 to 1839/1778 1782; A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 4th day of the dark-half of Chaitra first vs. 1842/28th Feb, 1785;

Ibid-dated 7th day of the bright-half of Chaitra first, vs. 1842/17th March 1785;

Ibid-dated 8th day of the bright-half of Vaisaka vs. 1842/16th May, 1785, Pf 6. LN. 50, 51, 52 respectively Jd.

2. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 6th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1837/7th July 1780 Pf. 6. LN. 38. Jd.;

A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 3rd of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1837/18th Aug; 1780. AB: No. 4. p. 39. Jd.

3. The Governor General, Warren Hastings, informed Bijay Singh in November, 1781; that he was sending his agent Anderson to Jodhpur to discuss about their mutual alliance against common enemies. Anderson was instructed by the Governor General to pay full attention to the demands and desires of Jodhpur Raja and comply with them. He further informed Bijay Singh that the British government was anxious to secure his help.

(C.P.C. Vol. vi 175, 280.)

4. The Anglo-Maratha war was at its fag end in 1781.

vats<sup>1</sup>. The relation between Sindia and Bijay Singh worsened, when in 1786 Mahadaji threatened an armed attack on Jaipur, as the Jaipur ruler did not pay the tribute of rupces 21 lacs settled earlier<sup>2</sup>.

Since the death of Ram Singh in 1772, Bijay Singh had improved his relations with Jaipur rulers. In 1774, he had approached the Emperor, making a common cause with Raja Prithvi Singh, for help against Partap Singh Naruka the Macheri chief and the Emperor agreed to it in lieu of their support to him against the Marathas<sup>3</sup>. On April 16, 1778, Sawai Pratap Singh became the ruler of Jaipur, Thereupon, the Naruka chief began to dream of territorial sovereignty for himself. He occupied a part of Jaipur territory by 1782<sup>4</sup>. Bijay Singh offered to come to the help of the Jaipur ruler<sup>5</sup>. However, he warned the Jaipur Politicians to be aware of the attitude of the Marathas<sup>6</sup>. Jaipur-Jodhpur cordial relations were strengthened by May, 1785<sup>7</sup>. Further more Bijay Singh entered into matri-

1. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 7th day of the bright-half of Chaitra, vs. 1840/28th March 1784;  
Ibid.-dated 10th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1840/29th May 1784. AB. No. 4. p. 41 and p. 42 respectively. Jd.
2. HP. 406;  
DY. i. 133.
3. C.P.C. Vol iv 1277;  
A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 11th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1831/14th Nov. 1774, AB. No. 4 p. 33. Jd;  
A letter from Bijay Singh to Tukoji Holkar dated 6th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1831/24th November 1774. AB. No. 4. p. 5. Jd.
4. A letter from Sawai Ram to Bhat Jagan Datta of Jaipur dated 8th day of the bright-half of Chaitra, vs. 1838/22nd March 1782. AB No. 4 p. 192. Jd.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid.
7. JY. 2;  
C.P.C. Vol vii 155.

## BIJAY SINGH OVERTHROWS MAHADAJI'S DOMINATION

monial alliance by giving his grand-daughter in marriage to Partap Singh in August, 1785<sup>1</sup>. After the departure of Mahadaji from Jaipur in June, 1786<sup>2</sup>, Bijay Singh activated the formation of the alliance with Jaipur. Though by August, 1786, the confederacy between the Jaipur and Jodhpur rulers was visible and the assemblage of their forces was open and avowed<sup>3</sup>, yet the two states were not bound by an agreement. Bijay Singh had proposed to Partap Singh that in order to meet the expenses of the joint army, certain districts of Jaipur might be kept under him<sup>4</sup>. It was not accepted by the Jaipur ruler. A temporary coolness followed this refusal. Matters came to such a pass, at a time, that a section of Jaipur court plotted to negotiate with Sindia in the middle of January, 1787<sup>5</sup>. But the ministerial changes in Jaipur in January, 1787, which brought Daulat Ram Haldia, an anti-Maratha statesman, as *Dewan*, put the plan of Bijay Singh of a Rajput confederacy, into action<sup>6</sup>. In the meantime, Bijay Singh had contacted the Shekhaots and tried

1. HP. 411;

JY. 2.

2. MD ii 114;

The attitude of Sindia towards Jaipur ruler, demanding the arrears of the tribute, forced Sawai Raja to withdraw his vakil from the camp of Sindia in 1785. Bijay Singh, supporting the Jaipur ruler also recalled his Vakil (MD ii 114)

In January, 1786 Sindia marched against the Jaipur ruler. Jaipur-Jodhpur military preparations were not ready for an action at that time, hence Partap Singh purchased Mahadaji's withdrawal by agreeing to pay rupees sixty three lacs. As soon as the first instalment of rupees eleven lacs was received by Sindia he left Jaipur on June 4, 1786. (Ibid).

3. P.R.C. I 51.

4. Ibid 119,

5. Ibid. 71, 82.

6. DY. I 175;

P.R.C. I 86, 175.

for reconciliation between them and Jaipur ruler with success<sup>1</sup>. In February, 1787, Partap Singh agreed to meet the expenses of the army and requested Bijay Singh to send his forces at the earliest<sup>2</sup>.

In the meantime, Bijay Singh prepared himself in such a way that his position became formidable by February, 1787. The annexation of Godwad had strengthened his financial position at home. In order to stabilise it, he introduced *Bijay-shahi* coins in 1781<sup>3</sup>. He created a standing army under Bhim Raj Singhvi, enlisting the mercenaries from Sind and Rohilkhand<sup>4</sup>. In 1782, Umarkot in Sind was occupied<sup>5</sup> from where he could recruit the mercenaries. He signed a pact with Najaf Quli Khan in August, 1785<sup>6</sup>. In February, 1786, he contacted Holkar<sup>7</sup>. In March, he further enlisted the *Nagas* and *Dadupanthi Sadhus* in his standing army<sup>8</sup>. The British power was approached in June to give him help against the Marathas<sup>9</sup>. When Mahadaji came to Jaipur in early months of 1786 and

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1. A Kharita from Partap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of Pausha vs 1843/1st Jan, 1787, Pf. 9, Kh. 26, Jd.; JY. (S) 1.
  2. A Kharita from Partap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 30th day of the dark-half of the Phalguna vs. 1843/18th Feb, 1787, Pf. 9, Kh. 30, Jd.
  3. Bijay Singh, after having obtained permission from the Emperor Shah Alam II, struck his own coins in 1781. The coins are also known as *Baisunda* and are of silver.  
(W. W. Webb.: *The currencies of Hindus states of Rajputana* p. 43. ).
  4. *Marwar-Khyat* Vol. iii p. 53.
  5. *Ibid*, pp. 112-119.
  6. HP. 411.
  7. A letter from Ambaji Ingle to Bijay Singh dated 9th day of the dark-half of Phalguna vs. 1842/22nd Feb, 1786. Pf. 2b. File No. 1 LN. 6. Jd.
  8. A letter from Gyan Mal to Nirbhai Ram dated 4th day of the bright-half of Phalguna vs. 1842/4th March 1786. AB. No. 4, p 274. Jd.
  9. C P.C. Vol. vii 564; 565.

secured a part of the tribute by remaining there upto June, Bijay Singh took hint out of it and began to formulate a Rajput confederacy of neighbouring states<sup>1</sup>. Having formed a close alliance with Jaipur in February, 1787, Bijay Singh sent his envoys to solicit the help of Shuja-ud-Daula of Oudh, the Sikhs and the Afghan ruler<sup>2</sup>. A suggestion by Mahesh Dass Kumpaot to reconcile with Sindia was overruled by Bijay Singh<sup>3</sup>. The movements of Sindia's envoys Rama Rao Sadashiv and Peshwa's representative Krishnaji Jaganath were restricted<sup>4</sup>. Conscription was ordered in Marwar<sup>5</sup>.

The warlike preparations of Bijay Singh and Partap Singh enraged Mahadaji. He sent a force under *Bakhshi* Jivaji Ballal Kerkar. (Jivadada) at the end of February, 1787, to strengthen his force under Rayaji Patel, already stationed near Jaipur. It proved of no avail. Lest things should become too formidable to tackle with, Mahadaji himself proceeded towards Jaipur and reached near Dausa on March 24<sup>6</sup>. A peaceful settlement between Jaipur ruler and Mahadaji was rendered impossible by the stiffening attitude of the Jaipur ruler. Hence a rupture was inevitable<sup>7</sup>. For four months Sindia waited for

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1. P.R.C. I 49.

2. JY. (S) 1.

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

6. DY. I. 193;  
P.R.C. I 58, 71, 80, 82.

7. DY. I 210, 211, 220;  
P.R.C. I 102, 103, 104.

The last meeting of the Jaipur envoy (representative), who was sent to negotiate for peaceful settlement, and Sindia's representative was held on April 14. The Raja offered rupees 14 lacs and demanded the surrender of Khusali Ram Bohra to him, after which he assured Sindia to clear the balance of the tribute, Mahadaji refused to let off anything against his claim on the ground to surrender Bohra.



the arrival of the Maratha cavalry under Ambaji Ingle and Khande Rao<sup>1</sup>. However, his main intention was to take up the offensive after the rains, in which interval, he calculated upon the dispersion of the confederates as their solidiery being chiefly composed of husbandmen who would retire to their fields for cultivation<sup>2</sup>. He had also calculated that the leaders of the confederacy would quarrel over their vested interests and hoped that his presence would weaken their cord before the action<sup>3</sup>. Khande Rao arrived on June 26<sup>4</sup>, and Ambaji Ingle later on, in July, joined Sindia<sup>5</sup>.

The Rajput confederacy, led by Bijay Singh, became formidable, In the beginning of May, 1787, the Jaipur ruler prepared to take the field<sup>6</sup>. Bijay Singh also moved out of Jodhpur to join the forces of Jaipur<sup>7</sup>. But affairs at Jodhpur<sup>8</sup> delayed his further movements. He asked his son Zalim Singh to proceed with 15,000 horses<sup>9</sup>. At the same time, he informed the Jaipur ruler not to engage in an armed clash until his *Bakhshi*

1. P.R.C. I 122, 124.

2. A letter from William Kirkpatrick to G.G. dated 3th May 1787' F.S. 17th May 1787. No. 3, Prdg. pp. 2388-2889.

3. P.R.C. I 118, 119.

4. A letter from William Kirkpatrick to G. G. dated 4th July 1787. F. S. 16th July, 1787 No. 2 Prdg. p. 3836;  
P.R.C. I 124.

5. P.R.C. I 127.

6. A Kharita from Partap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Jveshtha vs. 1844/5th May, 1787' Pf.9.Kh.40.Jd;  
P.R.C. I 103, 104.

7. P.R.C. I 114.

8. A Kharita from Partap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 10th day of the bright-half of Vaisaka vs. 1844/27th April 1787, Pf.9.Kh.38.Jd.

9. M.D.ii 149.

## BIJAY SINGH OVERTHROWS MAHADAJI'S DOMINATION

Bhim Raj joined him<sup>1</sup>. It delayed an immediate action by Partap Singh. Bijay Singh also contacted the Mughal leader Muhmmad Beg Hamdani, who, by this time, was on the side of Sindia and was encamping near Jaipur forces<sup>2</sup>. The Rathors allured him to help regain Agra from Sindia<sup>3</sup>, whereas, the Kachhwahas promised him to grant land in Jaipur territory<sup>4</sup>. Hamdani agreed and along with Bhim Raj *Bakhshi*, he joined the camp of Jaipur ruler on May 25<sup>5</sup>. Bhim Raj had also brought with him 15,000 Rathor cavalry, 4,000 Minas and 5,000 mercenary *Naga* musketeers<sup>6</sup>. The total number of the confederates increased to 40,000<sup>7</sup>. In July, a fresh agreement was entered into among the Rathors, Kachhwahas and Hamdani in order to define what was to be achieved in a war with the Sindia<sup>8</sup>. According to it<sup>9</sup>, the Raja of Jaipur was to be put in possession of all the territories that belonged to his family during the time of Madho Singh. He was to divide equally

1. A Kharita from Partap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 9th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha, vs. 1844/11th May 1787, Pf.9, Kh.41 Jd.
2. P.R.C. I 114.
3. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp.57-60.
4. A letter from William Kirkpatrick to G. G. dated 1st June 1787. F. S. dated 11th June 1787 No. 5.
5. Ibid.-dated 28th May 1787. F. S. dated 11th June 1787 No 3;  
P.R.C.I, 115;  
C.P.C. Vol, vii 1442.
6. JY. (S) I;  
DY. I 220-221.
7. A letter from Bijay Singh to Tukoji Holkar dated 14th day of the dark-half of Pausha vs. 1844/7th Jan. 1788. AB No. 4. p. 6. Jd.  
HP. 500 ( gives the number to 50,000 ).
8. A letter from William Kirkpatrick to G.G. dated 7th July 1787. F.S. dated 20th July 1787 No. 8;  
P,R,C, I, 125.
9. Ibid.

the dominions of Macheri Raja with Bijay Singh. Hamdani was to occupy the remaining part of the country possessed by late Najaf Khan after restoring to the Jaipur ruler such parts of it as originally belonged to his family. Whatever other districts the confederates might subdue, Hamdani was to keep one half and the two Rajas were to divide remaining half equally.

A grand strategy was adopted to meet the Marathas throughout Rajasthan. The Maharana of Mewar was encouraged to occupy the five *Mahals*, under possession of Sindia in his territory and lay designs on Ujjain<sup>1</sup>. Zalim Singh of Kota was asked by the Rathors to reoccupy those parts of his dominions which were under the possession of the Marathas<sup>2</sup>. Col. Harper was requested by the Jaipur ruler on July 10, to ask the council of Governor General 'to issue orders to Raja Himmat Bahadur to attack Sindia from the other side of the Jamuna<sup>3</sup>. The Rajputs began to seduce the Mughal mercenaries of Sindia on their side<sup>4</sup>. To counteract the delaying tactics of Sindia, the section of the confederacy led by the Rathors desired to push the matters to an issue before the arrival of Ambaji Ingle<sup>5</sup>. However, the Jaipur ruler waited for the junction of his helpers from Bikaner, Bundi, Khichiwarra and other Rajput centres,

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1. H.p. 502.

2. A letter from Gyan Mal Muhnot to Zalim Singh dated 12th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1844/8th Sept, 1787, AB. No. 4. P. 221, Jd.

3. C.P.C. Vol. vii 1442. 1556.

4. A letter from William Kirkpatrick to G.G. dated 7th May 1787. F. S. dated 17th May 1787 No. 4; P.R.C. I III.

5. Letters from William Kirkpatrick to G.G. dated 3rd & 7th May, 1787 F.S. 17th May 1787. No. 3. and 4; P.R.C. I 122.

particularly for a large body of hired Sindi musketeers<sup>1</sup>. The arrival of Khande Rao and Ambaji Ingle awakened their spirit of prompt action. Bhim Raj, Hamdani, Daulat Rao and Mullick Muhammad Khan began to intercept the supply of provisions to the Marathas<sup>2</sup>. Daily skirmishes began, in which fighting was done by the Rathors<sup>3</sup>, who created the morale of the confederacy 'exceedingly strong<sup>4</sup>, bringing fresh desertions from Sindia's army<sup>5</sup> to be absorbed in their fold.

However, the weakness of the confederacy lay in the vested interest of the Jaipur ruler. He was not so much interested in the Rajput confederacy as to regain from Pratap Singh Naruka, his lost territory<sup>6</sup>. He was, therefore making movements to achieve this end<sup>7</sup> rather than adhering to the major interest of the entire confederacy. From the very beginning he was moving half-heartedly and was trying to make favourable terms with Sindia through Ambaji Ingle, Shivaji Etal Rao and Rane Khan.<sup>8</sup> As soon as the Rathor General came to know about all these affairs, on July 25,<sup>9</sup> he induced the Jaipur ruler

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1. P.R.C. I 124.

2. A letter from William Kirkpatrick to G. G. dated 4th July 1787. F, S. 16th July 1787 No. 2; P. R. C. I. 127.

3. P. R. C. I 127.

4. Ibid

5. A letter from Harper to G. G. dated 2nd Aug. 1787. F, S. 28th Aug. 1787 No. 14. Prdg, p 4239.

Even on the eve of the battle, 100 Rohillas and 200 Najibs fled from Sindia's army,

6. A Kharita from Pratap Singh, to Bijay Singh dated 2nd day of the bright half of Sravana vs. 1844/16th July 1787. Pf. 9, Kh. 45, Jd.

7. Ibid.

8. P. R. C. I. 133, 135;  
C. P. C. Vol. vii 1544.

9. P. R. C. I 131.

to fight whole heartedly in the battle to be fought the next day.<sup>1</sup> The Kachhwaha ruler had, then, no alternative but to fight for the confederacy.<sup>2</sup>

The battle was fought at Tunga on July 28, 1787.<sup>3</sup> The confederates arranged their line of action in such a way that the Rathors on the right were to meet the six battallions of Lesteneau and Le Vassoult. Hamdani was on the left and the centre was evidently formed by the Kachhwahas. The brunt of the battle fell on the Rathors, who 'with their guns had commenced the engagement.'<sup>4</sup> The battle of artillery began at nine in the morning. For full two hours it continued. 'The Rathors were severely hurt but they advanced.'<sup>5</sup> The Maharaja of Jaipur, who kept himself back, then advanced to the field in person but knowing that 'the Rathors' foot had taken possession of the defiles in his front, he did not think it wise to advance.'<sup>6</sup> At 11 o'clock, the battle of the artillery stopped. They, then, fought with the small arms, arrows, swords and rockets. Four thousand Rathors charged the post of Ambaji at about four o'clock. The Maratha batteries on the left under Khandoji Appa

1. Ibid. 135;

A letter from Harper to G. G. dated 2nd Aug. 1787.

F. S. 28th Aug. 1787 No. 14. Prdg. p. 4244,

The Rathors took Aan that they would on the 'morrow set out and not return alive but with the victory.'

2. Ibid;

C. P. C. Vol. vii 1544.

3. P. R. C. I. 135, 136, 137; HP. 503.

Aiti. Patren 261; Dy. I 224; S. C. C. R. ii 71, 195;

C. P. C. Vol. vii 1544, 1545, 1551-1553.

4. P. R. C. I. 137.

5. P. R. C. I. 135;

A letter from Harper to G. G. dated 2nd Aug. 1787.

F. S. 28th Aug. 1787. No. 14 Prdg. pp. 4239-4244.

6. P. R. C. I. 137.

## BIJAY SINGH OVERTHROWS MAHADAJI'S DOMINATION

ploughed through their dense rank but 'heedless to it, they swept the marathas guns, sabred the gunners and still advancing fell upon the supporting Maratha infantry.' Hundreds of Nagas and Afghan troops were slain. Even De Boigne's sepoy, after firing a few volleys, were forced back in confusion.<sup>1</sup> However, the Rathor retreat was forced back by the artillery of Rane Khan, bringing their casualty to twenty chieftains of note and 400 to 500 men killed or wounded. Their leader Shobha Ram Bhandari with his son lay dead on the battle field.<sup>2</sup> In the evening Hamdani fell of a gun shot. The remaining Rathors tried again to break through the Maratha defence four or five times towards the evening but the artillery blocked their way.<sup>3</sup> The battle stopped at 8 P.M. in the night.<sup>4</sup>

Although the Rajputs got heavy casualties, they were successful in pushing back Sindia from Tunga towards Alwar and Hindaun on August first<sup>5</sup>. It proved to be a turning point

1. P. R. C. I. 135, 137;

HP. 500;

C. P. C. Vol. vii 1544.

2. P. R. C. I. 135, 136, 137;

HP. 500. It gives the Rathor casualty to 1000;

Maratha casualty was 1000 men killed or wounded.

C.P.C. Vol. vii 1551;

A Kharita from Partap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1844/29th Nov. 1787. Pf. 9. Kh. 49. Jd.  
It gives the casualty of the both sides as equal.

3. P.R.C. I 137;

HP. 503.

4. P.R.C. I 135.

5. P.R.C. I 137, 155;

HP. 503;

C.P.C. Vol. vii 1572;

A Kharita from Pratap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1844/29th Nov. 1787. Pf. 9. Kh. 49. Jd;  
Bijay Singh sent congratulations to Gulab Singh Sher Singhot (Tatodi

in uprooting Sindia's foothold in Rajasthan. As soon as Sindia was driven back, Bijay Singh sent Singhvi Dhan Raj from Merta<sup>1</sup> to take the city of Ajmer. It fell to the Rathors on August 27<sup>2</sup>. Then the siege of the fort of Ajmer began. A Jaipur force under Rodoji Khawas also joined the besiegers<sup>3</sup>. Bijay Singh sent more re-inforcement from Jalor and Nagor to tighten the siege so as to force its surrender<sup>4</sup>. However, the fort was successfully defended by Sher Khan Jamadar, a brother of Mirza Rahim Beg<sup>5</sup>. Mahadaji did not come to save the city and the fort<sup>6</sup>. He wrote to Fateh Singh Gaikwar to Baroda earnestly pressing him to pour troops into Marwar in order to prevent the fall of Ajmer, which would be an event of serious consequences to him and the possession of it would enable Rathors to penetrate into the very heart of his hereditary dominions<sup>7</sup>. In October, Ambaji Ingle, with the help of the Raja of Kishangarh, tried to pierce into Ajmer and to provision the fort but Rodoji Khawas opposed their march resulting in their retreat with heavy loss of the baggage. The commander of the fort could not stand the long siege, To save his honour, he took poison, thus facilitating its surrender on December 24,

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Khyat Granth no. 25 p. 8 Basta no. 40) and Ridmal Singh Akhay Singhot (Khas-Rukka and Parwana file no. 107 (DK—Jd,) for their part in defeating Mahadaji at the battle of Tunga,

1. P.R.C. I 175;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol, iii pp. 66-70.
2. P.R.C. I. 175;  
C.P.C. Vol. vii 1645.
3. P.R.C. I 192;  
MD, ii 154;
4. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 66-70.
5. P.R.C. I 175.
6. Ibid.
7. Ibid.

1787.<sup>1</sup> Dhan Raj Singhvi was appointed its governor by Bijay Singh<sup>2</sup>. Sindia's hold on Rajasthan disappeared with the fall of Ajmer to the Rathor chief, who believed, as he wrote to Tukoji Holkar in January, 1788, that the land of Rajasthan must belong to the Rajasthanis and in their friendship lay the prosperity of the Marathas<sup>3</sup>

### (H) Rathor moves against Sindia (1788-1790 A.D.)

Hereafter, Bijay Singh tried his level best that Sindia might neither have hold in Rajasthan nor in North India<sup>4</sup>. In order to be successful in his plan he entered into negotiations with all the powers, who were interested in driving out Sindia from the North. He wrote to the Peshwa through Tukoji Holkar in January 1788, to deprive Mahadaji of the leadership of the Maratha affairs in the North.<sup>5</sup> He sent Bhim Raj Singhvi, his *Bakhshi* to wait upon the Emperor at Rewari in February-March, 1788, in order to secure the Imperial support

1, P.R.C. I 192;

MD. ii. 154;

A Kharita from Partap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 10th day of the bright half of Margasirsha vs. 1844/20th Dec. 1787, Pf. 9. Kh. 50. Jd.;

A MS. history of Ajmer and Jodhpur p. 72: It mentions that 'Bhim Raj Sinkee on his return from Jaypore after the defeat of Madoo Patial captured the fort of Ajmer after a siege of three months through the treachery of Imam Allee, a friend, whom he had in the service of his opponent.'

Marwar-Khyat mentions that the Mian took 20,000 rupees and then surrendered the fort ( Vol. iii pp. 69-70).

2, A MS. history of Ajmer and Jodhpur p. 146.

3, A letter from Bijay Singh to Tukoji Holkar dated 14th day of the dark-half of Pausha, 1844/7th Jan. 1788.

AB. No. 4, p. 6, Jd.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.



## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

against Sindia.<sup>1</sup> Exploiting Holkar-Sindia differences,<sup>2</sup> he asked Tukoji not to support Mahadaji, if he desired to keep his hold in North India.<sup>3</sup> At the same time, he did not pay heed to the peace overtures sent by Mahadaji.<sup>4</sup> He supported the *coup* of Ghulam Qadir, an avowed enemy of Mahadaji, against the Emperor at Delhi in August,<sup>5</sup> Responding to an earlier call of the Sikh leaders in July, for forming an alliance of mutual help,<sup>6</sup> he sent his envoy to them in October.<sup>7</sup> He also asked Timur Shah of Afghanistan to come to India, which he did in December.<sup>8</sup> He asked his agents at Delhi to enrol the three platoons of Sindia, which had revolted against him in April, 1789.<sup>9</sup> The British help was also sought by Bijay Singh for this purpose in the beginning of 1790.<sup>10</sup>

However, Bijay Singh was not successful in his efforts. Thoguh Holker had his own differences with Sindia, yet he was

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1. JY. 11;  
C.P.C. Vol. viii 255;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 70-71.
  2. JY. (S) 2;  
HP. 543-546.
  3. A letter from Bijay Singh to Tukoji Holkar dated 5th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1845/23rd July 1788. AB. No. 4. p. 8. Jd.
  4. P.R.C. I, 312;  
C.P.C. Vol. viii 617;  
Hakikat Bahi No. 4 p. 602.
  5. JY. 5. 9.
  6. 'An article 'A treaty proposed by Sikh leaders to Maharaja Bijay Singh of Jodhpur in July, 1788.'  
(Published in J.I.H. Vol. XXvi Pt. I. No. 76. 1948.)
  7. JY.(S) 3.
  8. JY. 8; (S) 3;  
C.P.C. Vol. viii 264.
  9. JY. (S) 5.
  10. P.R.C. I 258;  
C.P.C. Vol. ix 161,

not pleased with Bijay Singh for his occupation of Ajmer.<sup>1</sup> He regarded himself first a representative of the Peshwa to look after his interest in North India and therefore he expressed his indignation over it.<sup>2</sup> In April, 1789, Timur Shah, hearing of the revolt of his brother, returned to Afghanistan.<sup>3</sup> Sindia had regained his lost position at the beginning of 1789,<sup>4</sup> in North India, where the Peshwa retained him at the head of the Maratha interest.<sup>5</sup> Bijay Singh tried to beg time by proposing an alliance with Mahadaji through Holkar in July, 1789, but Sindia had no mood to respond.<sup>6</sup> The Emperor and the Sikh leaders did not like Bijay Singh's invitation to Timur Shah, for they feared his coming would be detrimental to their interests.<sup>7</sup> Hence the Sikhs asked Bijay Singh not to call Timur Shah, in lieu of which, they were prepared to help him.<sup>8</sup> But he had renewed his invitation to Timur Shah,<sup>9</sup> only to hear no response from him or his agent, Shah Nawaz Khan, in Sind.<sup>10</sup> The British expressed their inability to come to help Bijay

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1. JY. (S) 2;  
C.P.C. Vol. viii 795.

2. Ibid;  
M.D. ii. 171.

3. JY. (S) 5.

4. M.D. ii. 173;  
Aitihāsik Patravyavahar 266-275;  
Persian Records on Marathas, ii p. 17.

5. DY. I 281.

6. H.S.I.S. I, 236.

7. C.P.C. Vol. viii 1548.

8. Ibid.

9. Ibid.;  
General letters to the court of Directors dated 5th November 1789. F. P.  
(1789-1791) p. 75.

10. JY. II.

Singh in March, 1790, as they were busy against Tipu Sultan.<sup>1</sup>

Earlier Mahadaji had expressed his determination to carry his arms against Jodhpur after the rains in 1789,<sup>2</sup> but he could not do it because of his severe illness upto August, 1789<sup>3</sup> and then, his quarrels with Ali Bahadur and Tukoji threatened a civil war between them. But immediately, he had regained his position. He reconciled with Ali Bahadur and Holkar, restored Rane Khan to his former confidence and reorganised his artillery under De Boigne.<sup>4</sup> In May, 1790, he decided to march on to Marwar with the main aim of recapturing the fort of Ajmer from Bijay Singh.<sup>5</sup> The Jodhpur ruler had no alternative but to measure swords with Sindia in order to keep Ajmer under him. Earlier in november, 1789, finding the prospects of the situation adverse to him, he had formulated the union of the forces of Jaipur and Jodhpur.<sup>6</sup> When Ismail Beg revolted against Mahadaji in the beginning of 1790, he took the opportunity and made an alliance with him.<sup>7</sup> The march of the army of Sindia under Jiviji Ballal and Col De Boigne through Rewari was stopped at Patan<sup>8</sup> by the combined

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1. C.P.C. Vol, ix 207.

2. General letters to the court of Directors dated 5th November 1789. F.P. ( 1789-1791 ) p. 74.

3. Persian Records on Marathas ii p. 17.

4. P. R. C. I 257;  
HP, 567

5. S. C. C. R. ii 76.  
Poona Akhbarat Vol. iii pp. 122-123.

6. General letters to the court of Directors dated 5th November, 1789. F.P. (1789-1791) p. 74.

7] A letter from Palmer to G. G. dated 21st February 1790. F.S. dated 5th March 1790 No. 2;  
DY. ii 2,

8. Patan is 18 miles south of Narnaul and 60 miles north of Jaipur.



Vijay Singh, Jodhpur

forces of Rathors, Kachhwahas and the Mughals under Ganga Ram Bhandari and Ismail Beg.<sup>1</sup> A severe battle was fought on June 20, 1790. The Rathors fought bravely but the inactivity of the Jaipur force and desertion of Ismail Beg at the very first canon shot of De Boigne made them fall back on the frontiers of their motherland. The Rathor casualty was 3,000 killed and wounded.<sup>2</sup>

### (1) Sinda invades Marwar.

On this defeat, Bijay Singh approached Mahadaji through Rane Khan and Pandit Aba Chitnis for peace talks, which Sindia did not entertain.<sup>3</sup> The Maratha chief was determined to press for the cession of Ajmer fort, make complete reduction of Jodhpur and expel the Raja.<sup>4</sup> His forces under Jivaji, Gopal Bhau and De Boigne left Patan soon after the battle and occupying Sambhar, Parbatsar and Rupnagar on the way, it reached Ajmer, where the siege of the fort was laid on August 21, 1790.<sup>5</sup>

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1. P.R.C. I 260;  
HP. 570, 573, 574;  
Poona Akhbarat Vol. iii p. 132.

2. Ibid.

3. Letters from Khichi Gordhan to Mahadaji, Rane Khan and Pandit Aba Chitnis dated 12th day of the dark-half of 2nd Ashadha vs. 1846/9th July 1790. AB. No. 4. p. 166. Jd.

4. P.R.C. I 264;  
HP. 575;  
Poona Akhbarat Vol. iii p. 132.

5. P.R.C. I 264;  
HP. 575, 579;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii p. 84;

Herbert Compton : European Military Adventurers of Hindustan p. 55;  
It gives the date of the siege as 15th August (wrong).

Despite his illness,<sup>1</sup> Bijay Singh made the Rathors assemble under his banner. Armies from Jalor, Desuri and Sirohi were immediately summoned.<sup>2</sup> The heavy artillery was brought into repairs and use.<sup>3</sup> Conscription was ordered in Marwar.<sup>4</sup> Jaipur ruler assured his full support.<sup>5</sup> The Bikaner forces joined the Rathors at Didwana.<sup>6</sup> Attempt at the defection of De Boigne was tried in vain by Bijay Singh with a proposal to create him an independent ruler of Ajmer.<sup>7</sup> Ismail Beg began to mobilise forces for his help.<sup>8</sup> Ten thousand Rathors were kept for the defence of the capital.<sup>9</sup> Thirty six thousand Rathors assembled at Merta,<sup>10</sup> under *Bakhshi Bhim Raj*, with a view to march and reinforce the besieged garrison at Ajmer.<sup>11</sup>

1. P.R.C. I 264.

2. Hakikat Bahi No 5 p. 151. Jd;

A letter from Muhnot Gyan Mal to Beri Sal of Sirohi dated 1st day of the bright-half of 2nd Ashadha vs 1846/13th July 1790. AB, No. 4.p. 263. Jd. To meet the financial emergency, Gulab Rai, the favourite Pasban of the Maharaja, sold her ornaments worth rupees 3 lacs. Khichi Gordhan was asked to arrange for another sum of rupees three lacs, (Mundiyad Khyat (Bijay Singh) pp 226-227-Basta No. 20 ).

3. Hakikat Bahi No 5. p. 151. Jd.

4. JY. (S) 1.

5. A Kharita from Partap Singh to Bijay Singh dated 10th day of the bright half 2nd Ashadha vs. 1847/21st July 1790. Pf, 9. Kh. 82. Jd.

6. Hakikat Bahi No 5 p. 147. Jd.

7. Herbert Compton : European Military Adventurers of Hindustan p. 55.

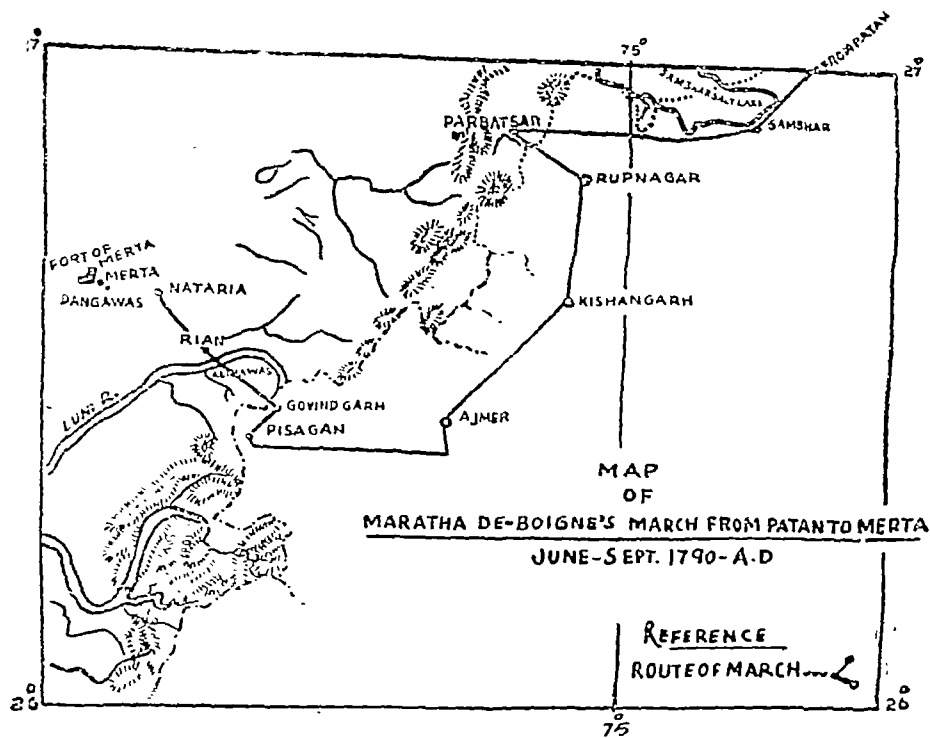
8. C.P.C. Vol. ix 737

Ismail Beg was promised 10,000 rupees a month for his help to Rathors ( Hakikat Bahi No. 5 p. 165 ) Jd.

9. S.C.C.R. ii 82.

10. HP, 579;  
S.C.C.R. ii 79.

11. C.P.C. Vol. ix 737.



In order to face the situation Sindia devised a plan. He obtained 1,000 and 1,000 cavalry force from Holkar and Ali Bahadur<sup>1</sup> on the promise to share equally the fruits of the conquest over Bijay Singh.<sup>2</sup> He sent an army towards Jaipur to neutralise the ruler, in case he moved to join the Rathor forces.<sup>3</sup>

Hearing that Rathors had assembled at Merta and were waiting for the junction of Ismail beg Khan and the Jaipur army, Gopal Bhau and De Boigne left the responsibility of the siege of Ajmer fort on two thousand Marathas and a body of trained musketeers, and marched towards Merta through different routes. The main army under Gopal Bhau left Ajmer on September 4, and reached Nataria, 4 miles east of Merta on September 7. De Boigne proceeded first to the south of Ajmer, then westward and moving towards north by way of Pisagan, Govindgarh Alniawas where he crossed slowly the sandy land of the bed of the river Luni, and Rian reached Nataria on September 9. With the joining of this army, Gopal Bhau wanted an immediate attack on the Rathors, who had encamped at Dangawas, three miles west of the Maratha camp, but De Boigne pleaded for a day's rest before his infantry and artillery could be effectively used.<sup>4</sup>

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1. HP. 574.

2. S.C.C.R. ii 78, 80.

3. HP. 574.

4. HP, 579;

C P.C Vol. ix 737;

S.C.C.R. ii 79;

Mundiyad Khyat (Bijay Singh) pp. 225-226 Basta No. 20,;

Herbert Compton. European Military Adventurers of Hindustan p. 60.

Pisagan is about 16 miles S.E. of Ajmer,

Govindgarh is 6 miles north of Pisagan and 16 miles west of Ajmer.

Alniawas is 26°31'N. 74°20'E, about 20 miles S.E. of Merta.

Rian is 26°32'N. 74°14'E, about 68 miles N.E. of Jodhpur and 16 miles S.E. of Merta.



## (J) Battle of Merta, September 10, 1790.

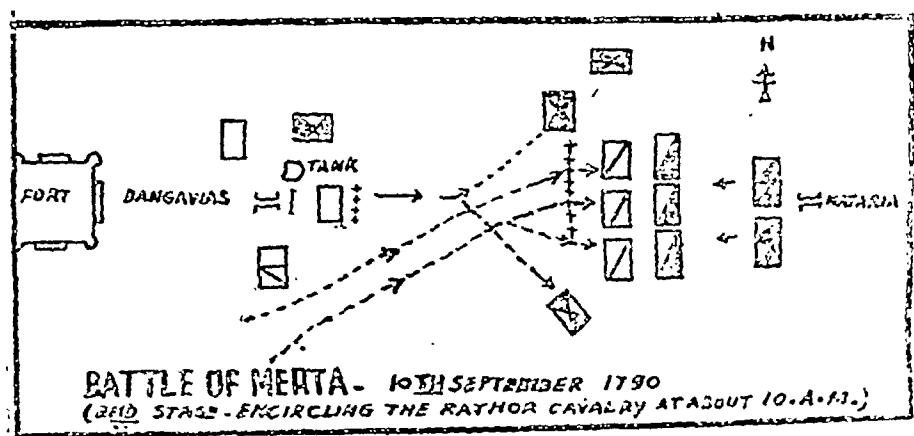
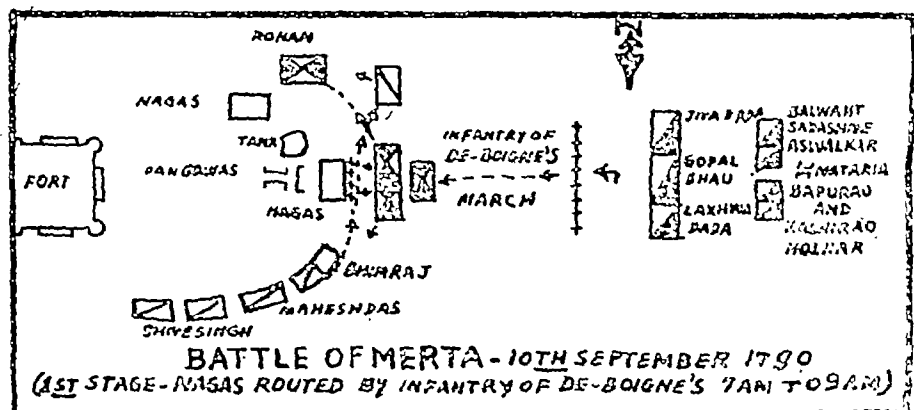
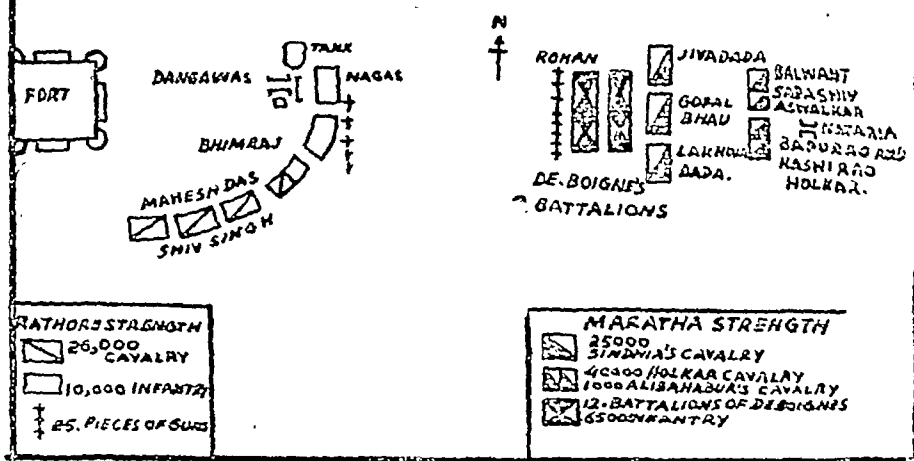
The Rathors and the Marathas lay face to face on the plains of Merta in between Dangawas and Nataria within a distance of three miles: The Rathor force consisted of 26,000 cavaliers, 10,000 infantry and 25 pieces of old guns. They formed a semi-circle round the southern side of Merta city from Dangawas westward. To the left near the tank of Dangawas, groups of *Naga* mercenaries took post. To the right of the circle towards the south of Merta, the Rathor cavalry under Mahesh Das Kumpaot and Sheo Singh Champaot remained encamped. In between the two, Bhim Raj *Bakhshi* commanded the combined infantry and cavalry. In front of the encampment but more towards left, the guns were placed facing the Maratha camp. Sindia's army consisted of 25,000 cavalry of his own and 4,000 and 1,000 bodies of Holkar and Ali Bahadur. Besides it, De Boigne's army was composed of 12 battalions of infantry and 50 pieces of choice artillery. His battalions formed two lines with field guns before them. Some distance behind them the Maratha horse was drawn up, in a far extended line, Laxman Anant Lad (Lakhwa Dada) on the left. Gopal Bhau in the centre and Jivaji Ballal on the right. A full mile behind these stood the Holkar horse under Bapu Rao and Kashi Rao Holkar and Ali Bahadur's men under his *Dewan* Balwant Sadashiv Aswalkar.<sup>1</sup>

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(For the route of De Boigne's March to Nataria, see map, facing page 144).

1. H.P. 579;  
C.P.C Vol, ix 610, 737;  
S.C.C.R, ii 79, 81;  
H.S.I.S I 302;  
M.D. ii 209;  
Mundiyad Khyat (Bijay Singh) pp. 228-232. Basta No. 20. Jd.  
Herbert Compton: European Military Adventurers of Hindustan p. 60,  
( See map facing page 146 for the position of the armies at the early hours  
of September 10 ).  
Dangawas is 2 miles E. of Merta.

# BATTLE OF MERTA - 10TH SEPTEMBER 1790 ARRANGEMENT OF THE BATTLE FIELD BEFORE ENGAGEMENT (ABOUT 5-30 AM)



Though some Rathor leaders desired a general movement against the Marathas immediately yet Bhim Raj *Bakhshi* waited, at the orders of the government, for Ismail Khan to join him. The Marathas did not give any time to the Rathors for they opened the offensive in the grey morning of September 10, De Boigne moved forward, came closer to the Rathor left and played havoc on the *Nagas*. Confusion in the Rathor rank spread and in an hour's time they dispersed and their artillery was captured. The Rathors were taken unawares. Their generalissimo fled but others did not yield. In the meantime Capt. Rohan of De Boigne's right wing, without the orders of the general, pushed forward towards the tank of Dangawas in order to rout the enemy at close quarters. Finding a gap between him and the rest of De Boigne's infantry, a Rathor force pierced through it and surrounded him. He had a hair breadth escape, though wounded. As the sun rose high in the sky, the Rathor cavalry of 4,000 strong led by Mahesh Das and Shiv Singh fell on De Boigne's gunners. Caring a little of the fire, they pierced to attack the second line of the Maratha cavaliers and farced Gopal Bhau and Jiva Dada to retreat a pace. Finding the situation changed, De Boigne's infantry turned back and forming a square, surrounded the Rathors. Soon the guns, having been turned by this time on the opposite face, began to pour fire on the Rathors. The regiments of Holkar and Ali Bahadur rushed to aid Gopal Bhau and Jiva Dada. After two hours of such breathless exertion, the fury of the Rathor onslaught was spent. The battle had finished by 10 A.M. and the city of Merta capitulated at 3 P.M. Marathas lost 900 infantry of De Boigne, 50 Maratha soldiers were killed and 250 wounded. The Rathor casualty was 2,000 killed and 3,000 wounded. Bhim Raj with his 4,000 cavalry had fled to Nagor. Ganga Ram Bhandari with his 2,000 soldiers defended the fort of Merta for four days,

but ultimately surrendered. The Marathas enriched themselves with the valuable spoils.<sup>1</sup>

The discomfiture of the Rathors at the battle of Merta demands a brief consideration. The Rathor defeat at Merta was decisive. They did not fight in a combined effort to push back the onslaught of De Boigne but carried their swords under the individual leaders. Their artillery was weak. The *Nagas* were most undisciplined and untrained. The whole force lacked efficient mobility and rapidity. Though their morale was high and cavalry terrible, yet it could not face the Marathas in a pitched battle. The army arrangements of the Marathas were superior. The generalship of De Boigne was far superior to that of the Rathor counterpart. The Sindia's generals co-operated with one another and acted without adhering to their individual movements. The Holkar's army, kept at a mile's distance, served as reserve at the time of need. Thus the scientific combination of De Boigne's infantry, artillery and Maratha cavalry proved successful at the fag end of the battle. The defeat of the Rathors could have been changed into victory, had they dealt with the two sections of the Sindia's army separately and had not allowed them to join the first day, September 9. De Boigne could have easily been routed

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1. HP. 579;  
 C.P.C. Vol. ix 610, 737;  
 S.C.C.R. ii 79, 81;  
 DY. (S) 37;  
 H.S.I.S. I 293, 302;  
 MD. ii. 209.  
 Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 90-91;  
 Herbert Compton: *European Military Adventurers of Hindustan*  
 pp 60-61.  
 (For the position of the armies from 7 to 10 A.M. see map facing p. 147 ).  
 Mundiyyad Khyat (Bijay Singh) pp. 235-253. Basta no. 20.

during his slow march in the bed of the river Luni, where the mobility of his artillery was ineffective. The Rathor lost another opportunity when they did not fall on the fatigued army of the Marathas and De Boigne on the day of its arrival. The initiative taken by their enemies in the early hours of the next day proved fatal and the Rathor lost the day within four hours of fighting.

(H) Treaty of Sambhar, Jan. 5, 1791, and its results.

(i) Attempts at peace (September 1790  
January 1791.)

The news of the defeat of their army demoralised the people of Jodhpur, who began to flee, fearing the next move of the Marathas on the capital.<sup>1</sup> Bijay Singh made preparations to move either to Jaisalmer or to Jalor.<sup>2</sup> However, in order to avoid further conflict, on the advice of *Thakur* Sawai Singh, Fateh Singh and Gulab Rai, he sent peace proposals with Vyas Nawal Rai to Mahadaji on September 14, 1790.<sup>3</sup> At the same time another delegation under Muhnot Gopal Das, Calla Sukh Ram, Pandit Muthura Nath and Pandit Krishnaji Jagannath, the Peshwa's representative at Jodhpur court, was sent to the leaders of the army of Sindia at Merta on September 15, for the same purpose.<sup>4</sup>

1. S.C.C.R. ii 82.

A part of the Maratha force under Jivaji moved towards Jodhpur, after the battle and stayed at Khawasapura (Mundiyyad Khyat (Bijay Singh) p. 264. Basta No. 20, Jd.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid;

A letter from Khichi Gordhan to Jivaji Pandit dated 6th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1847/14th Sept. 1790 AB. Bo.4 pp. 161-162, Jd. Mundiyyad Khyat (Bijay Singh) p. 264. Basta No. 20, Jd.

4. S.C.C.R. ii 82;

A letter from Khichi Gordhan to Jivaji Pandit and Gopal Bhau dated 7th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1847/15th Sep. 1790 AB. Bo.4 pp. 162, Jd;

Hakikat Bahi No. 5. p. 153.

Mahadaji refused to entertain Nawal Rai.<sup>1</sup> Thereupon, Bijay Singh prevailed upon Trimbak Rao and Rane Khan on October 1, to intervene and request Sindia to discuss the peace terms with his envoy.<sup>2</sup> The Peshwa also expressed his desire for a settlement on the basis of the payment of the arrears of the tribute, surrender of the fort of Ajmer and compensation for the losses in the war.<sup>3</sup> Mahadaji quoted high terms. It included<sup>4</sup> an indemnity of rupees two crores thirty five lacs, out of which one crore to be paid in cash. It also included the payment of the tribute and its arrears, the surrender of Ajmer along with its tribute of the last three years during which period it was under the possession of the Rathor Raja, equal share of the tribute for the portion of the territory, which was under Ram Singh formerly and possession of some of the districts of Marwar as a measure of security for the payment of the rest of the indemnity

Bijay Singh's men conveyed to Sindia that their master was prepared to surrender Ajmer and pay its tribute at the rate of three lacs a year amounting to nine lacs of rupees, pay the tribute of Marwar and Godwad and its arrears amounting to fifteen lacs sixty thousand rupees in cash, pay a reasonable compensation of the Maratha losses in the war, give revenue of Sambhar, Nawa and one more district to meet the expenses of the army and losses in the war.<sup>5</sup> However, he refused to share the tribute of the portion of Ram Singh and pay one crore rupees

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1 Letters from Bijay Singh to Trimbak Rao and Rane Khan dated 8th day of the dark-half of Asvina vs. 1847/1st Oct. 1790 AB. No. 4 p. 64 and p. 99 respectively. Jd.

2. Ibid.

3. JY. 16.

4. Ibid.

5. JY. 17,

in cash.<sup>1</sup> Doubting Sindia's intention for a reasonable settlement, Bijay Singh prepared himself for the worst, in case Sindia attacked again.<sup>2</sup> He called Ismail Beg Khan, who had joined the Rathors at Nagor on the next day of the battle of Merta,<sup>3</sup> and Bhim Raj Bakhshi from Nagor.<sup>4</sup> Both reached Jodhpur on December 16 and 18 respectively with all their forces.<sup>5</sup>

In the meantime, hearing no concrete proposals from the Rathors and finding them preparing for war,<sup>6</sup> Sindia came to Sambhar in the third week of December, 1790.<sup>7</sup> Thereupon Bijay Singh sent another delegation under Budh Singh, Kalyan Das and Bhawani Das Bhandari to wait upon Sindia at Sambhar.<sup>8</sup> Through the services of Aba Chitnis,<sup>9</sup> a settlement was arrived at on January 5, 1791.<sup>10</sup> Accompanied by Sindia's agent Gadhwa

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1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.

3. HP. 597;  
S.C.C.R. ii 82;  
Selection from Calcutta Gazetteer Vol. ii p. 282.

4. Hakikat Bahi No. 5. pp. 181, 183. Jd.

5. Ibid.

6. JY. 16, 18.

7. HP, 586;  
DY, (S) 1.

8. JY. 19;  
DY, (S) 4.

9. Ibid.

10. A letter from Mahadaji Sindia to Bijay Singh dated 1st day of the bright-half of Pausa vs. 1847/5th January 1791. Pf. 6. LN. 57. Jd.  
The date given in 'Historical Papers regarding Mahadaji Sindia's 6th January (letter No. 587)  
The date accepted is 5th January as it is mentioned on the document sent by Mahadaji to Bijay Singh containing the detailed statement of the settlement. The letter in H.P. is brief in its form and content and was written on the next day of the settlement from a place 24 miles off from Ajmer.

Fakirji, the Rathor envoys returned to Jodhpur on January 19.<sup>1</sup> Bijay Singh accepted the settlement and sent its ratification to Mahadaji Sindia on January 24.<sup>2</sup>

## (ii) Terms of the treaty of Sambhar.<sup>3</sup>

### A. War Indemnity :

1. Rupees 60,00,001 shall be paid to Sindia as war indemnity, *Nazrana*, court expenses and *Khasa-sawari* (reserved conveyance).
2. Out of it, rupees 15,00,001 shall be paid in cash, eight lacs on February 4, 1791 and the rest upto April 4, 1791. Besides it, three lacs worth of *Bharna* (miscellaneous-cattle and jewels) shall be supplied.
3. Rupees 15,00,000 shall be paid to Gopal Rao Raghunath for distribution in the army. Besides it, three lacs worth of *Bharna* shall be supplied to him.
4. Four lacs worth of *Bharna* shall be supplied within two years in equal instalments.
5. Rupees 20,00,000 shall be paid as the payment of the tribute of Nawa, Marot and Parbatsar within a period of four years. The first instalment of it amounting to rupees 2,00,000 shall be paid on June 16, 1791.

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1. Hakiket Bahi No. 5. p. 190. Jd.

2. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji Sindia dated 5th day of the dark-half of Magha vs. 1847/24th Jan. 1791. AB. No. 4 p. 45, Jd.

3. The letters from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 1st day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1847/5th Jan. 1791. Pf 6. LN 57,58, and 59. Jd.;  
HP. 587;  
DY. (S) 4;  
JY. 19.



## TREATY OF SAMBHAR

6. If there is regular payment of the arrears of the tribute and amount of the war indemnity, a remission of rupees 2,00,000 shall be allowed.

### B. Restoration of the tribute and annexation of places.

Bijay Singh shall

1. Pay the tributes of Marwar and Godwad amounting to rupees 1,50,000 and rupees 30,000 per year respectively from 1791 onwards regularly.
2. Restore Ajmer to Sindia without withdrawing its property.
3. Hand over Sambhar including its lake, Khairwa, Masuda and 29 villages of Bhinai to Sindia.

### C. Other terms.

Bijay Singh shall not

1. Interfere in the affairs of the above places and create difficulties for the Maratha tax collectors.
2. Go to war with the ruler of Kishangarh.

### D. Maratha promises.

Mahadaji shall

1. Pay the compensation for the losses in the cultivation caused by the movement of the Maratha army passing through Marwar.
2. Not regard the case of the compensation of the losses if the Maratha army moves in Marwar in order to enforce the ruler to honour the deed.

## CHAPTER V

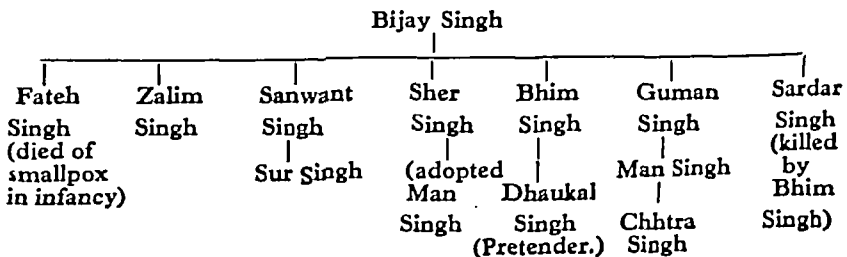
# The end of the Maratha influence in Marwar (1793—1818 A.D.)

### (A) Bhim Singh-Man Singh struggle (1793-1803 A.D.) and Maratha interference.

During the closing years of Bijay Singh's reign (1791-1793), the succession issue<sup>1</sup> disturbed the political stability of the state, giving rise to court intrigues, revolts of the claimants and political murders. Zalim Singh was the rightful claimant but his claim was bypassed in favour of Sher Singh, the fourth son. His kept woman *Pasban*, Gulab Rai, also put forward the case of Man Singh, son of Guman Singh, adopted by Sher Singh. The latter was declared as heir-apparent and Jalor was bestowed on him by the *Pasban*. The case of Bhim Singh was put forward by a section of the nobles, who threatened Bijay Singh with severe consequences, if the clique of Sher Singh-Man

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1. Geneology based on Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p.43.  
Basta no. 28. Jd. is :



Singh patronised by the *Pasban*, was to rule Marwar. As the *Pasban* was unpopular and her standing was weak, Bijay Singh had to incline towards the claim of Bhim Singh but on the eve of his death, he favoured his grandson Sur Singh, rather than Bhim Singh, to succeed him. It led to the intensity of the civil strife dividing the nobility of Marwar into siding one claimant or the other. Gulab Rai was murdered by her opponents. Zalim Singh began to solicit the help from the Marathas and Rana of Udaipur. Bhim Singh threatened to invade the capital.<sup>1</sup>

However, the issue became a straight fight between Man-Singh and Bhim Singh after the death of Bijay Singh. The latter occupied the capital and enthroned himself on July 17, 1793, with the help of the Maratha agents, Dhan Singh, Rama-Rao Sadashiv and Krishnaji Jagan Nath at Jodhpur and the principal nobles led by Sawai Singh of Pokran.<sup>2</sup> Man Singh slipped away to Jalor, where he declared himself the ruler of Marwar.<sup>3</sup>

In order to liquidate his rivals, Bhim Singh asked Mahadaji to send Gopal Bhau and Jivaji *Bakhshi* to his help.<sup>4</sup> Ambaji Ingle was also contacted for the same purpose.<sup>5</sup> The Maratha

1. JY. 20, 21, 24, 26;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 99-103.

2. A letter from Bhim Singh to Mahadaji dated 9th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1849/17th July 1799. AB. No. 4 p. 50. Jd.

JY. 26;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 119-120.

3. JY. 126;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 121-122;

A letter dated 1st April 1798 sent by Man Singh to Maharana Bhim Singh of Udaipur with his title 'Raj Rajeshwar Maharajadhiraj Maharaj Shri indicating himself as the ruler of Marwar, (Veer Vinod Vol. ii p. 1574).

4. A letter from Bhim Singh to Mahadaji dated 9th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1849/17th July 1793. AB. No. 4 p. 50. Jd.

5. A letter from Bhim Singh to Ambaji Ingle dated 1st day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1850/22nd Aug. 1793. AB. No. 4 p. 72; Jd.

governor of Ajmer, Shivaji Nana, was requested to proceed to Merta with a strong contingent.<sup>1</sup> Early in 1794, a Maratha force under Jivaji and Laxman Anant ( Lakhwa Dada ) moved towards Marwar.<sup>2</sup> But a change in the Maratha politics at this stage had prevented Lakhwa Dada from staying in Marwar for long and consolidating Bhim Singh's position.

Mahadaji died on February 12, 1794 and he was succeeded by Daulat Rao Sindia.<sup>3</sup> He appointed Lakhwa Dada, in place of Jivaji *Bakhshi*, to look after the interest of the Marathas in the North India, on his behalf.<sup>4</sup> As such Lakhwa Dada, after a settlement of the payment of his tribute, left Marwar in September, 1794 to take the charge of the new post.<sup>5</sup>

In the meantime Man Singh fortified himself at Jalor, collected 8,000 soldiers and secured the tribute from the territories bordering Therad and Palanpur.<sup>6</sup> He also sent his men to Holkar to seek his assistance.<sup>7</sup> He also secured the close co-operation of his uncle Zalim Singh, who had gone to Mewar in order to press Ambaji Ingle for his cause.<sup>8</sup>

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1. A letter from Bhim Singh to Shivaji Nana dated 7th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1850/28th Aug. 1793. AB, No. 4. p. 146. Jd.
  2. Letters of Bhim Singh to Mahadaji, Jivaji and Gopal Bhau dated 30th day of the dark-half of Phalguna vs. 1850/1st March 1794. AB. No. 4 p. 51 and p. 124 respectively. Jd;  
JY. 26, 27;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp, 120-121.
  3. JY. 27.
  4. Ibid. 28.
  5. A letter from Bhim Singh to Pandit Narayan Rao dated 4th day of the dark-half of Asvina vs. 1851/13th Sept. 1794. AB. No. 4. p. 127. Jd;  
P.R.C. viii 42, 217,
  6. JY. 27.
  7. Ibid.
  8. Ibid. 26.

A Marathi force began its movements towards the *Ghata* in December, 1794.<sup>1</sup> Thereupon Bhim Singh requested Lakhwa Dada to censure Ingle for his activity and keep the Maratha forces beyond Kumbhalgarh.<sup>2</sup> He, on his part, stationed a Rathor force under Shiv Chand at Ghanerao in order to check the advance of any Maratha army from the *Ghata* side.<sup>3</sup> Lakhwa Dada had a different plan, though distant. Taking advantage of the family feud, he wanted to occupy Jodhpur to keep it under Sindia's rule.<sup>4</sup> That is why he evaded the call from Bhim Singh on the pretext that he had not paid the instalment of the tribute.<sup>5</sup>

When Bhim Singh had no hope from the Marathas, he tried to strengthen his position by entering into an alliance with the ruler of the Jaipur<sup>6</sup> and soliciting the aid from Zaman Shah<sup>7</sup> of Afghanistan and the British.<sup>8</sup> But effectively the Marathas could not achieve anything in Marwar as their attention was

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1. A letter from Bhim Singh to Pt. Laxman Anant dated 9th day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1851/30th Dec. 1794. AB, No. 4. p. 108 Jd.

2. Ibid.

3. A Kharita from Bhim Singh to Partap Singh dated 4th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1852/9th June 1796. Jp ;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii p. 121.

Ghanerao is 25°14'N 73°32'E, about 4 miles S.S.E. of Desuri.

4. P.R.C. viii 28, 36.

5. A letter from Bhim Singh to Pt. Laxman Anant dated 3rd day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1852/14th Nov. 1795. AB, No. 4 p. 110. Jd;  
A letter from Bhim Singh to Daulat Rao Sindia dated 14th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1853/25th Nov. 1796. AB, No 4 p 53. Jd;  
P.R.C. viii 36.

6. P.R.C. viii 37.

7. Ibid' 36'

8. Public Deptt' Records Vol. xv (press list of Ancient documents obtained from the India office Jan. 1795-June 1797) p. 311.

diverted to the affairs of Mahadaji's widows against Daulat Rao in between 1798-1799.<sup>1</sup>

Finding the Marathas busy in their affairs, Bhim Singh occupied Sambhar,<sup>2</sup> promised Ambaji Ingle on June 22, 1799, his military support<sup>3</sup> against his rival, Lakhwa Dada and assured the ruler of Kishangarh his whole support, in case Lakhwa Dada attempted to invade his territory.<sup>4</sup> This all instigated Lakhwa who, having contacted Man Singh for the over-throw of Bhim-Singh,<sup>5</sup> marched in April towards Marwar through Jaipur and on April 17, 1800, gave a crushing defeat to the combined forces of the Rathors and the Kachhwahas at Malpura.<sup>6</sup>

Lakhwa Dada could not enjoy the fruits of the victory. He was dislodged from the governorship of the North India and Ambaji Ingle was appointed in his place.<sup>7</sup> A rift in the Maratha camp was again created by it. Bhim Singh took advantage of it and offered his hand of friendship to Lakhwa.<sup>8</sup> In May, 1800, an agreement was entered into between Bhim Singh and the fugitive Maratha general, Lakhwa.<sup>9</sup> According to it,

1. P.R.C. viii 74-76; 198.

2. P.R.C. viii 132;

A letter from Bhim Singh to Ambaji Ingle dated 5th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1855/22nd June 1799. AB. No. 4. p. 73. Jd.

3. A letter from Bhim Singh to Ambaji Ingle dated 5th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1855/22nd June 1799 AB. No. 4. P. 73. Jd.

4. A Kharita from the ruler of Kishangarh to Bhim Singh dated 3rd day of the bright-half of Ashadha and 8th day of the dark-half of Asvina vs. 1856/5th July and 22nd Sept. 1799. Pf. No. 4. File No. 8/11 Kh.4 and 5. Jd.

5. P.R.C. viii 168

6. P.R.C. ix 8

7. P.R.C. ix 11.

8. Ibid. 14.

9. Ibid.

Bhim Singh assured a safe asylum to the family of Lakhwa at Jodhpur, in lieu of which the latter agreed to defend Jodhpur if attacked by Sindia's other general, Perron.<sup>1</sup> On the advice of the Lakhwa, Bhim Singh refused to pay the tribute to Perron.<sup>2</sup> In order to dislodge him from Sambhar, where Perron had encamped in June, 1800,<sup>3</sup> Bhim Singh collected a big force at Merta<sup>4</sup> and sent messages to Lakhwa, who was in Mewar at that time, to proceed immediately and join him at Merta in order to march against Perron.<sup>5</sup> The mobilisation of the combined forces compelled Perron to withdraw from Sambhar.<sup>6</sup> Bhim Singh reoccupied Sambhar with Lakhwa's help.<sup>7</sup> He further made his position strong by inviting Jaipur ruler to make a common cause against Perron.<sup>8</sup> However, on the detachment of Dada's force under Jagannath Rao Krishna (Jagu Bapu) to join the widows of Mahadaji in September, Perron returned towards Marwar and in December 1800, forced Bhim Singh to pay the tribute due and reoccupied Sambhar.<sup>9</sup>

In the meantime Man Singh made overtures to the Maharana of Udaipur in 1798, to prevail upon Ambaji Ingle to

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1. Ibid.

2. Ibid. 17.

3. A letter from Bhim Singh to Laxman Anant dated 6th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1856/12th June 1800. AB, No. 4 p. 111 (b). Jd.

4. Ibid.

P.R.C. ix 19 B.

5. Ibid.

6. P.R.C. ix 19.

7. Ibid. 21;

A Ms. history of Ajmer and Jodhpur p. 154.

8. Letter dated 14th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1856/July 5, 1800, File concerning Khato-Kitab No. 30 (DK) Jd.

9. P.R.C. ix 24; Arzee file No. vi (DK.) Jd.;  
A MS. history of Ajmer and Jodhpur p. 154.

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1. P.R.C. viii 74-76; 198.

2. P.R.C. viii 132;

A letter from Bhim Singh to Ambaji Ingle dated 5th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1855/22nd June 1799. AB. No. 4. p. 73. Jd.

3. A letter from Bhim Singh to Ambaji Ingle dated 5th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1855/22nd June 1799 AB. No. 4. P. 73. Jd.

4. A Kharita from the ruler of Kishangarh to Bhim Singh dated 3rd day of the bright-half of Ashadha and 8th day of the dark-half of Asvina vs. 1856/5th July and 22nd Sept. 1799. Pf. No. 4. File No. 8/11 Kh.4. and 5. Jd.

5. P.R.C. viii 168

6. P.R.C. ix 8

7. P.R.C. ix 11.

8. Ibid. 14.

9. Ibid.



late Mahadaji.<sup>1</sup> But Bhim Singh, being an ally of Sindia, did not respond to it.<sup>2</sup> Sindia could not stand successfully against the British and his forces were defeated at Assaye on September 24, and at Laswari on November 1, 1803.

In the meantime, after the death of Bhim Singh, Man Singh had occupied Jodhpur. He judged the situation and entered into treaty negotiations with the British with the sole objective that he would be helped against Sindia.<sup>3</sup> He also sounded Holkar and sent his envoys Bhandari Kalyan Das and Gehlot Jiwan Das on December 6, to wait upon Jaswant Rao.<sup>4</sup> He got the response and Pandit Balwant Rao was sent by him to Jodhpur.<sup>5</sup> He met Man Singh on January 10, 1804.<sup>6</sup> After protracted negotiations for seven days, agreements were drawn up between Man Singh and Jaswant Rao against the British power, with whom Holkar had no good relations.

According to the *Qualnama*<sup>7</sup> of January 17, Holkar assured Man Singh that he would prevail upon Daulat Rao Sindia and *Sanads* would be secured from him by which he could cede Ajmer and Sambhar to Jodhpur. He also agreed that the settlement with Jaipur would be finalised in the presence of

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1. M.M. Vol. iii pp. 169-170, 235, 241-242;  
P.R.C. viii 123.

2. A letter from Bhim Singh to Daulat Rao dated 3rd day of the bright-half of Asvina vs. 1860/19th September 1803. AB. No. 4 p. 55. Jd.

3. P.R.C. xi 14;  
Aitchison: T.E.S. Vol. iii pp. 126-127 (Terms of the treaty).

4. Hakikat Bahi No 8. 444. Jd.

5. Ibid. p. 450.

6. Ibid.

7. *Qualnama* (Copy) of Jaswant Rao Holkar to Man Singh dated 5th day of the bright-half of Magha vs. 1860/17th Jan. 1804. AB. No. 5. p. 106. Jd. (See Appendix 'C').

help him. In lieu of it, Man Singh promised to restore Godwad to him after his capture of the capital<sup>1</sup>. When Bhim Singh was paying his entire attention to meet the danger from Perron, Man Singh marched on Jodhpur in December 1800. He looted Pali on his way. However, Bhim Singh's general Singhvi Chain Karan and Champaot Bahadur Singh defeated him at Sadkade near Pali in January, 1801 and forced him to retreat<sup>2</sup>. Man Singh's position worsened in 1803<sup>3</sup> as he found that no Maratha help was available for they were busy themselves in a war against the British. He, therefore, decided to surrender and as such opened negotiations through Inder Raj Singhvi, the Jodhpur general, on September 16, 1803. But before it could be finalised Bhim Singh died on October 19. Man Singh secured the support of the besieging army and repaired to Jodhpur, which he occupied on November 5, 1803.<sup>4</sup>

### (B) Anglo-Maratha wars (1802-1805 A.D.) and Man Singh's role

On the eve of the death of Bhim Singh, the relations of Marwar with East India Company began. The British had begun to look towards Marwar as a possible ally in their struggle against the Marathas, for they regarded that the ruler of Jodhpur would be forthcoming to stand by them, as it would help him to restore those districts of which they were dispossessed by

1. Veer Vinod Vol. ii p. 1574.

2. Melone Khyat p. 11. Basta No. 40. Jd;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii pp. 127-128.

3. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iii p. 130.  
Bhim Singh, being free from Maratha anxiety, sent all his forces towards Jalor in July 1803, which occupied the city of Jalor.

4. Ibid. Vol. iv pp. 1-5.

observed by Man Singh<sup>1</sup> For the support of the party, he bestowed the villages of Bhasudi, with a revenue of rupees 4,000 and Rugoli with a revenue of rupees 2,000 in Godwad permanently.<sup>2</sup> The family of Holkar stayed there for about a period of four years.<sup>3</sup> When favourable conditions were restored, it left Jodhpur in July, 1809, to join Holkar.<sup>4</sup>

In the meantime, in order to please Holkar, Man Singh refused to ratify the treaty with the British,<sup>5</sup> negotiated in December, 1803. He sent a considerable force in September, 1805 to join Holkar near Ajmer.<sup>6</sup> It enraged the British. They supported Sindia's claim on Jodhpur.<sup>7</sup> Consequently Daulat Rao's position was strengthened and he threatened the Rathor capital with an invasion.<sup>8</sup> As Man Singh could not get any help from Holkar, he agreed to Sindia's terms for the payment of the tribute.<sup>9</sup>

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1 Ibid. pp. 3-4, 37;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv p. 14.

2 Hakikat Bahi No. 9. p. 37. Jd.

3 Ibid. p. 22;  
P.R.C. xi. 185.

4 Hakikat Bahi no. 9. pp. 3-4. Jd.

5 A letter from Secretary to G.G. to Malcolm, Resident with Sindia dated 9th May 1894 F.S. 6th Sept. 1904. No. 6;  
prinsep : History of Pol. and Mil. transactions in India Vol. I. p. 7.

6 P.R.C. Xi 134.

7 M.M. Vol. iii p. 593.

8 P.R.C. Xi. 134.

9 P.R.C. xi. 134;  
A letter from Man Singh to Daulat Rao dated 8th day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1862/29th Dec. 1805. AB. No. 5. pp. 6-7. Jd.

the Rathor chief. By the agreement of February 2,<sup>1</sup> Man Singh promised to send Holkar a Rathor force for his help and offered a safe asylum to his family at Jodhpur.

In accordance with the agreement, Man Singh sent a Rathor force towards Jaipur,<sup>2</sup> whither Holkar had marched from Ajmer.<sup>3</sup> He invited the family of Holkar in April, 1804, to come to Jodhpur and stay there.<sup>4</sup> In response to which the family arrived in June, 1805.<sup>5</sup> The party consisted of Holkar's two wives, Tulsi Bai and Laka Bai, Khande Rao, son of Malhar Rao, Hari Rao, nephew of Jaswant Rao<sup>6</sup> and Holkar's daughter, Bhima Bai.<sup>7</sup> It was also attached with a retinue of Ganpat Rao, Pandit Vayaji Faradnavis, Hari Singh Kumedar, Raja Ram, Babia Mayaji and Nino Machand<sup>8</sup> along with a small artillery.<sup>9</sup> Man Singh procured a safe place at Chenpura to encamp Holkar's family<sup>10</sup> and their party. A cordial reception was given to the party and formality of the right of exchange of *Rakhi* was also

1. *Qualnama* (Copy) from Man Singh to Jasvant Rao Holkar dated 6th day of the dark-half of Phalguna vs, 1860/2nd Feb. 1804. AB. No. 5 p. 107. Jd.
2. A letter from Jagat Singh of Jaipur to Daulat Rao dated 2nd day of the bright-half of Sravana vs. 1861/7th Aug. 1804. (KS), Jd.
3. *Marwar Khyat* Vol. iv p. 14.
4. A letter from Bhandari Ganga Ram to Jasvant Rao Holkar dated 13th day of the dark-half of 2nd Chaitra vs, 1860/9th April 1804. AB. No. 5. p. 105. Jd.
5. H.S.I.S. ii 70.
6. *Hakikat Bahi* no. ix pp. 3-4. Jd.
7. H.S.I.S. Vol. ii. 70.
8. *Hakikat Bahi* No. 9 pp. 3-4. Jd.  
Later on, Pt. Balaji, Dewan Dulah Raj and Pt. Trimbak Rao also joined the party (*Hakikat Bahi* No. 9 p. 22).
9. *Ibid.* p. 3.
10. *Ibid.* p. 2. Chenpura is six miles north of Jodhpur, now a suburb of it.



Man Singh, Jodhpur

## (C) Krishna Kumari episode and Maratha intervention

The estrangement between Man Singh and Daulat Rao Sindia came to an end at the close of the year 1805, but a quarrel between Jaipur and Jodhpur brought about a fresh interference from the Marathas in Marwar. It began with the marriage problem of Krishna Kumari, daughter of Bhim Singh of Udaipur. She was betrothed to Bhim Singh of Jodhpur,<sup>1</sup> but he died before the marriage in 1803. His cousin, Man Singh sent overtures for marriage with Krishna Kumari to the Maharana, but they were rejected by him<sup>2</sup> on the moral ground that his brother was betrothed to her and on political grounds that he (Man Singh) had unrightfully occupied Khalirao, the fief of Mewar.<sup>3</sup> The Maharana, then, engaged her with Jagat Singh, the ruler of Jaipur,<sup>4</sup> who sent an escort of 3,000 troops to Udaipur to convey the Princess to Jaipur for solemnization of the nuptials.<sup>5</sup>

Man Singh regarded it as his personal insult. In order to take vengeance against the Rana of Udaipur, he encamped at Dangawas near Merta in January, 1806 and collected a large Rathor army,<sup>6</sup> which was further strengthened by the forces of

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1. Malcolm : *Memoris of Central India* Vol. I p. 330.  
Marwar Khyat Vol. iv p. 27.
  2. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv p. 27; Malcolm, Vol. I p. 331;  
Wilson : Vol. vii p. 60.
  3. Qanungo's Chapter on 'Memoirs of Amir Khan Pindari by Basawan Lal'  
in 'Historical Essays' p. 131.
  4. Marwar Khyat iv pp. 27-28.  
Malcolm : *Memoirs of Central India* Vol. i p. 331;  
Tod : Vol. ii p. 1082;  
Wilson Vol. vii p. 60.
  5. P.R.C. xi 136;  
Wilson Vol. vii p. 60.
  6. Hakikat Bahi No. 9. p. 48.

rule c. Man Singh had alienated some of his feudal chiefs and led by Sawai Singh of Pokran, they were putting up the claim of Dhonkal Singh, son of Bhim Singh, to the throne of Jodhpur.<sup>1</sup> Man Singh had hoped all assistance from Holkar, who was obliged to come to his aid in lieu of the safe asylum given by the Rathor chief to his family after his debacle at Dig. As such, he proceeded from his the-then post, Alniawas, on June 22, 1806, to meet Holkar.<sup>2</sup> Holkar, leaving his army at Hurmara, had come near Pushkar and encamped at the village Tilore.<sup>3</sup> The two met at the village Nid on June 23.<sup>4</sup> The subsequent meetings were also attended by Sirji Rao Ghatka, Jaipur Dewan Rai Ratan Lal Amir Khan and Ayasji Maharaj.<sup>5</sup> A close relationship between Man Singh and Jasvant Rao Holkar was established, as they dined together on the same table.<sup>6</sup> But Amir Khan showed indifference towards Man Singh, and he left the camp immediately and stayed at Ajmer.<sup>7</sup> The talks lasted upto October 23, 1806.<sup>8</sup>

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1. P.R.C. xi Introduction p. xiv;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol, iv pp. 30-31;  
File concerning Amal-Ki-Chithi No 7. (DK) Jd.  
The son was born after the death of Bhim Singh,  
(Marwar Khyat Vol, iv p. 2).

2. Hakikat Bahi No. 9, p. 73 Jd.

3. Hakikat Bahi No. 9, p. 7 Jd.  
Prinsep : Memoirs of Amir Khan p. 295.

4. Hakikat Bahi No. 9 p. 74. Jd.

5. P.R.C. Xi 183;  
Hakikat Bahi No. 9 pp. 77, 78, 79;  
Prinsep : Memoirs of Amir Khan pp. 293-299.

6. Hakikat Bahi No. 9 p. 78. Jd.

7. Ibid. p. 79;  
Prinsep : Memoirs of Amir Khan p. 299.

8. P.R.C. Xi 203;  
Holkar's family also visited along with Man Singh and left on the day,  
Man Singh left Nid in October for Jodhpur.

not desire to support the cause of Jodhpur against justice.<sup>1</sup> He played the role of a mediator for sometime by proposing to the Maharana to give one daughter each to Jodhpur and Jaipur ruler.<sup>2</sup> But it was not liked by Jagat Singh.<sup>3</sup> Sindia then pressed Jagat Singh for the tribute.<sup>4</sup> It led the Jaipur ruler to negotiate with Man Singh on the basis of marrying his sister to him.<sup>5</sup> All talks of Krishna Rumari's marriage with Jaipur ruler for sometime were withheld.<sup>6</sup>

In response to Man Singh's request to Holkar, Jasvant Rao arrived at Sambhar from the Punjab on May 5, 1806, and on the pretext of the demand of the tribute, he began to create disturbances in the territory of the Kachhwaha ruler.<sup>7</sup> Jagat Singh approached Man Singh to intervene and settle the amount of the tribute to be paid to Holkar.<sup>8</sup> Sindia, in lieu of his obligation for forcing the ruler of Udaipur to retract his assent of marriage of his daughter to Jaipur,<sup>9</sup> asked Man Singh to try to effect a reconciliation with Holkar.<sup>10</sup>

Man Singh undertook to meet Holkar.<sup>11</sup> It was further necessitated by the political problems at home. The two years'

1. Ibid.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid, 156.

6. Ibid;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv p. 29;

Wilson : Vol. vii p. 61.

7 P.R.C. xi 168;

Malcolm : Memoirs of Central India Vol. I p. 248.

8 P.R.C. xi 168.

9. Wilson : Vol. vii p, 61;

10 P.R.C. xi 178.

11. Ibid. 168.



But hardly had he proceeded towards Shahpura, when he was informed by Man Singh not to move to a great distance as he feared Jaipur ruler's aggressive designs on him again.<sup>1</sup>

The Jaipur ruler strengthened his position by absorbing the Hyderabad Risala of Holkar into his army.<sup>2</sup> He also entered into an alliance with Amir Khan.<sup>3</sup> In order to remove his main rival, Man Singh, from his way, he gave asylum to Dhonkal Singh, the candidate for Jodhpur throne and his partisan, Sawai Singh of Pokran.<sup>4</sup> He was also joined by Surat-Singh of Bikaner.<sup>5</sup> Sindia was also brought to his side.<sup>6</sup> With this strength on his side Jagat Singh violated the earlier agreement with Man Singh by expressing his desire to marry Krishna Kumari.<sup>7</sup> By November, 1806, the political horizon in Jaipur was so coloured that a rupture with Man Singh was inevitable.<sup>8</sup> The mobilisation of Jaipur forces in December, 1806, threatened Man Singh with an invasion on Marwar.<sup>9</sup>

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1. Ibid. 208.

2. Ibid. 204, 211.

3. Ibid. 204, 212;

Prinsep : *Memoirs of Amir Khan* p. 307.

4. P.R.C. xi. Introduction p. xv; xi 210.

Malcolm : *Memoirs of Central India* Vol. I. p. 333.

5. P.R.C. xi 216;

Prinsep : *Memoirs of Amir Khan* p. 312.

6. P.R.C. xi 216.

The Jaipur ruler took the responsibility to pay the tribute of Dhonkal Singh also, if Sindia sided him. His own payment of the tribute was rupees ten lacs.

7. P.R.C. xi 204.

8. P.R.C. xi 208.

9. A letter from Man Singh to Jasvant Rao Holkar dated 1st day of the dark half of Pausha vs. 1863/26th Dec. 1806. AB. No. 5. p. 102. Jd.

Man Singh failed in his efforts to remove the differences of Holkar and Sindia.<sup>1</sup> The Jaipur representative tried to evade the payment of the settled tribute but the stern attitude of Holkar made him pay the amount.<sup>2</sup> Rai Ratan Lal also agreed to close down the quarrel with Man Singh over the marriage of Krishna Kumari. Instead he agreed to Holkar's suggestion that Man Singh would marry Jaipur ruler's sister and the Jaipur ruler would marry Man Singh's daughter.<sup>3</sup> Regarding Holkar's support to Man Singh against Dhonkal Singh or on his subsequent estrangement with Jaipur ruler on the problem of the marriage of Krishna Kumari, Holkar agreed to help the Rathor chief.<sup>4</sup>

In the meantime, Holkar's army at Hurmara clamoured for the payment of the arrears and to press compliance it detained his nephew Khande Rao.<sup>5</sup> However, Holkar was able to rescue his nephew with the help of Rathor force brought with him from Nid meeting and pay a little ransom to the mutineers.<sup>6</sup> It brought about the desertion of his Hyderabad Risala.<sup>7</sup> Immediately after it, he marched towards Ramsar.<sup>8</sup>

1. P.R.C. Xi 185;

Holkar refused to relinquish his claim to an equal share of the tribute from Udaipur.

2. P.R.C. xi 201.

The amount settled was rupees 15,00,000 gross (P.R.C. xi 185).

3. A letter from Thakur Das to British Resident at Delhi dated 11th January 1807 No. 4; F. S. 28th Jan. 1807 No. 4;

Prinsep : *Memoirs of Amir Khan* p. 299.

4. A letter from A. Seton to Secretary to G. G. dated 12th January, 1807. F.S. 29th Jan. 1807 No. 13 A.

5. P.R.C. xi 197, 204.

6. *Ibid*;

Prinsep : *Memoirs of Amir Khan* pp. 302-303.

7. P.R.C. xi 204.

8. *Ibid.* 206.

to bring him onwards to Jaipur camp at Alisur.<sup>1</sup> Holkar's next move towards Sambhar on February 4, unnerved Jagat Singh.<sup>2</sup> He offered him on February 6, rupees ten lacs on the condition that the bills of the amount would be encashed at Kota.<sup>3</sup> Holkar agreed and leaving a part of his army to join Man Singh,<sup>4</sup> rushed towards Kota.<sup>5</sup>

The attitude of Holkar throughout this period was guided by his personal motives. He did not care to help Man Singh at any stage. However, he exploited the Jodhpur Jaipur differences for his gains. His pretentions, as a friend and ally of Man Singh were put to pressure on Jagat Singh to pay him the maximum. As soon as he got it, he withdrew from the theatre of action.

The withdrawal of Holkar weakened the position of Man Singh and he was not successful when Jagat Singh, with the forces of Amir Khan,<sup>6</sup> made an attack on him at Parbatsar on March 19, 1807.<sup>7</sup> He fled from the field, intending to go to Jalor but changed his mind and retired to Jodhpur on March 21.<sup>8</sup> The invading army, carrying Dhonkal Singh, pushed onwards to Jodhpur by way of Nagor, which it captured.<sup>9</sup>

1. Ibid.

2. Ibid-10th Feb, 1807, F. P. 16th Feb, 1807, No. 29.

3. Ibid.

4. P.R.C. xi 224.

5. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmrostone dated 6th March 1807, F. P. dated 19th March 1807, No. 21; P.R.C. xi-224.

6. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 1st March 1807, F. S. 19th March 1807 No. 3.

7. Ibid-dated 23rd March 1807, F. P, 9 th April 1807, No. 25; P. R. C. xi 225.

8. Ibid.

9. P. R. C. xi-227.

Man Singh sent his repeated requests to Holkar to join him immediately.<sup>1</sup> At first, Holkar put the pressure on the Rana of Udaipur that, if he did not encourage Jaipur Raja's views on marriage,<sup>2</sup> he would keep himself away from assisting either parties.<sup>3</sup> But the mobilisation of Jaipur forces made him march towards Ajmer and Kishangarh with the intention of joining Man Singh.<sup>4</sup> When the Jaipur *Vakil* waited on him with an offer of rupees four lacs if he withdrew, he rejected it and warned him not to attack Man Singh, for it would mean an attack on him.<sup>5</sup>

The Jaipur ruler did not yield. Ignoring Holkar,<sup>6</sup> he publicly recognised Dhonkal Singh as the head of the Rathor state of Jodhpur on January 17.<sup>7</sup> He rejected Man Singh's offer of a compromise on moderate terms<sup>8</sup> and proceeded towards Sambhar.<sup>9</sup> But soon he was perturbed at the movement of Holkar towards Parbatsar, a distance of twelve miles,<sup>10</sup> where Man Singh lay encamped,<sup>11</sup> and at the news that Man Singh had sent his *Vakils* with two lacs of rupees to Holkar in order

1. Ibid.

He again sent a letter dated 8th day of the dark half of Pausa vs. 1863/1st Jan. 1807. AB. No. 5. p. 103. Jd.

2. P.R.C. xi 209.

3. Ibid.

4. P.R.C. xi 213.

5. A letter from A Seton to Secretary to G. G. dated 12th January 1807. F. S. 29th Jan. 1807, No. 13 A.

6. An Arzee from Rai Ram Singh, Jaipur Vakil to the British resident, Delhi received on 7th February 1807. F. S. dated 12th Feb 1807. No. 97.

7. A letter from A Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 20th Jan. 1807. F. P. 5th Feb. 1807, No. 127.

8. A letter from A Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 15th Jan. 1807. F. P. 29th Jan. 1807, No. 32.

9. Ibid.

11. Ibid-dated 29th Jan. 1807. F. P. dated 12th Feb. 1807 No. 96.

12. Ibid.

to bring him onwards to Jaipur camp at Alisur.<sup>1</sup> Holkar's next move towards Sambhar on February 4. unnerved Jagat Singh.<sup>2</sup> He offered him on February 6, rupees ten lacs on the condition that the bills of the amount would be encashed at Kota.<sup>3</sup> Holkar agreed and leaving a part of his army to join Man Singh,<sup>4</sup> rushed towards Kota.<sup>5</sup>

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1. Ibid.

2. Ibid-10th Feb, 1807. F. P. 26th Feb, 1807. No. 29.

3. Ibid,

4. P.R.C. xi 224.

5. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmrostone dated 6th March 1807. F. P. dated 19th March 1807. No. 21; P.R.C. xi 224.

6. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 1st March 1807. F. S. 19th March 1807 No. 3.

7. Ibid-dated 23rd March 1807. F. P. 9th April 1807. No. 25; P. R. C. xi 225.

8. Ibid.

9. P. R. C. xi 227.

The capital was besieged on April 2.<sup>1</sup> A fortnight later, on April 16, it fell to the invaders, who then moved to capture the fort.<sup>2</sup> The authority of Dhonkal Singh was completely established all over Marwar,<sup>3</sup> except on fort, which Man Singh refused to surrender and retired to Jalor.<sup>4</sup> Completely detached and isolated, Man Singh commenced a series of contacts with the British Resident Alexander Seton at Delhi.<sup>5</sup> The Jodhpur envoy, Fateh Ram Vyas proposed to him that Jodhpur should be taken under British protection.<sup>6</sup> The Resident politely rejected the proposal.<sup>7</sup>

The prospects of success for Jaipur were also not favourable. The scarcity of fodder and water began to tell upon the invading forces.<sup>8</sup> On Man Singh's appeal to his chiefs to

1. Ibid. 228.

2. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 24th April 1807. F. P. 7th May 1807. No. 22;  
P. R. C. xi. 230.

3. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 11th April 1807. F. P. 30th April 1807 No. 28;  
A letter from Sawai Singh to Budh Singh dated 4th day of the dark-half of Vaisaka 1867/April 26, 1807.  
File of Amat-Ki-Chithi no. 7. (DK.) Jd.

4. P. R. C. xi 230.

A proposition of such a nature was rejected by Man Singh,

5. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 20th Feb. 1807. F. P. 12th March 1807. No. 26.

6. A letter from N. B. Edmonstone to A. Seton dated 12th March 1807. F. P. 12th March 1807. No. 28.

7. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 20th Feb. 1807. F. P. 12th March 1807. No. 26.

In reality, the British desired that Amir Khan should commit all sorts of excess, for they looked to the disputes and wars of its neighbours as one of the chief sources of British Government's security in India (B.D. Basu: Rise of the Christian power in India Vol. iv pp. 20, 163).

8. P.R.C. Xi 232.



Jalore Fort

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS.

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8. P.R.C. Xi 232.



Khan.<sup>1</sup> Having concluded peace Amir Khan retired to Jodhpur on October 19, 1807, along with Sirji Rao Ghatka.<sup>2</sup> Later on, he was joined by Mookhtar-ood-Daula Mnhammad Khan, the captain of his artillery, at Jodhpur in December, 1807.<sup>3</sup>

Though the danger of Jaipur invasion passed yet Dhonkal Singh, assisted by Bapuji Sindia and Jean Baptiste at Nagor, was a living problem for Man Singh.<sup>4</sup> Amir Khan was bound by the earlier agreement to put an end to Dhonkal Singh and his patron, Sawai Singh.<sup>5</sup> According to the agreement, Man Singh had agreed to pay rupees 4,50,000, bestow on him a *Jagir* worth rupees four lacs for kitchen expenses and take his brigade into his permanent service.<sup>6</sup> Man Singh employed the brigade under Mookhtar-ood-Daula under different terms with the captain.<sup>7</sup> The latter agreed to keep 10,000 infantry, 2,000 cavalry and 125 pieces of field artillery. He also promised to serve at all times and at all places, directed by the Rathor chief.<sup>8</sup> In lieu of it, Man Singh agreed to pay him rupees 1,50,000 every month and he allotted a *Jagir* to him in the *tehsil* of Nawa.<sup>9</sup>

To execute his promise, Amir Khan left Jodhpur on December 29, 1807 and marched to Nagor.<sup>10</sup> Later on he was

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1. P.R C, Xi. 243.
  2. Hakikat Bahi no. 9. p. 86. Jd.
  3. Ibid. p. 90.
  4. P.R.C. Xi 243.
  5. Ibid. 236.
  6. Malcolm : The Political History of India Vol. I p. 234;  
Prinsep : Memoirs of Amir Khan p, 324;  
Wilson : Vol, vii p. 64 ff. 3.
  7. Hath Bahi No. 3. pp. 42-43. Jd.
  8. Ibid.
  9. Ibid.
  10. Hakikat Bahi No. 9. p. 91. Jd;  
P.R.C. Xi, 243.

political pressure, the Maharaja might come to terms. Man Singh anticipated such a move. He made all preparations to meet Sindia. A Rathor force, under Bhandari Kan Mal and Kalu Ram was sent to defend the frontiers near Ajmer.<sup>1</sup> Hira Singh was asked to join this force.<sup>2</sup> Messages were sent to Amir Khan to return to Marwar along with the forces of Holkar.<sup>3</sup> The differences with Jaipur ruler were settled and an alliance of mutual help between them was entered into.<sup>4</sup> Mookhtar-ood-Daula was directed to move towards Merta along with his 10,000 men, 6,000 cavalry and field artillery.<sup>5</sup> Accordingly he proceeded towards Ajmer and encamped in its vicinity on February 22, 1810.<sup>6</sup>

However, Sindia did not come to Marwar, as he had to go to Ajmer, where the revolt of his general Bale Rao Ingle had drawn his attention. It moderated his pressure on Man Singh,<sup>8</sup> with whom he was prepared to come to any compromise provided the Rathor Chief broke away from Amir Khan and promised to help him with an army in future.<sup>9</sup> Thereup

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1. Hakikat Bahi No. 9. p. 162. Jd.;  
P.R.C. xi 290;

2. Hakikat Bahi No. 9. p. 159. Jd.;  
P.R.C. Xiv 12, 18;  
Prinsep : History of the Pol. and Mil. transaction in India Vol. I p. 1

3. P.R.C. Xiv I.

4. A letter from Inder Raj to Rai Ratan Lal dated 14th day of the bright half of the Sravana vs 1866/24th August 1809, (KS). Jp.;  
P.R.C. Xiv 12.

5. P.R.C. Xiv 18.

6. Ibid. 20, 21.

7. P.R.C., Xi 290; Xiv 1.

8. P. R. C. Xiv 1.

9. P.R.C. xi 290.

Man Singh sent his *Vakils* to Sindia,<sup>1</sup> who entertained the moderate terms offered.<sup>2</sup> Having appointed Bapuji Sindia, in place of Bale Rao, as the governor on January 27, 1810,<sup>3</sup> Daulat Rao left Ajmer on February 7, for his country.<sup>4</sup>

The long struggle between Jodhpur and Jaipur for the hand of Krishna Kumari had its adverse effects. It exhausted both the states economically and financially. Both secured the support of the Marathas and Amir Khan for their cause, giving opportunities to them to ravage their states and drain their treasuries with no tangible results. Realising it, though late, both the rulers promised that none would marry Krishna Kumari. They further agreed that Jodhpur and Jaipur houses would enter into a matrimonial alliance, by the marriage of Man Singh's daughter with Jagat Singh, who would give his sister to Man Singh in marriage.<sup>5</sup> They also executed a treaty of friendship and of mutual defence in April, 1810.<sup>6</sup> At the insistence of Amir Khan, in connivance with Man Singh,<sup>7</sup>

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1. P.R.C. Xiv 4.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid 18.

4. Ibid. 19

5. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 6th June 1810. F. P. dated 21st June 1810. No. 42. Fateh Ram Vyas, the *Vakil* of Jodhpur at Delhi tried to persuade British Resident witness the pact as a kind of British guarantee for its observance by the parties but A. Seton refused for obvious reasons to put his signature to it. ( A letter from A. Seton to N.B. Edmonstone dated 19th June 1810. F.P. dated 7th July 1810. No 37).

6. P.R.C. Xiv 30

7. Ibid. 39;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv p. 58;

Veer Vinod Vol. ii pp. 1738-1739.

However Tod ( Vol. I pp. 539-541) and Prinsep ( Memoirs of Amir Khan p. 399 ) exonerated Man Singh of the responsibility of the murder. Wilson supports this view (Vol, vii p. 63) Marwar Khyat mentions that Man-

short visit to Jodhpur in August, 1812.<sup>1</sup> This time he collected rupees three lacs from Man Singh<sup>2</sup> and later on, on a call from Daulat Rao to join him at Jaipur, he left Marwar in October, with a Rathor cavalry and Muhammad Khan.<sup>3</sup>

In the meantime, Marwar was threatened by the Talpura ruler of Sind, who had occupied Umarkot in early months of 1813.<sup>4</sup> Bapuji Sindia entered into the territory and plundered the eastern part of Marwar in January, 1814.<sup>5</sup> He pressed for the payment of the instalments of the tribute to Sindia.<sup>6</sup> In order to get himself relieved of such a situation, Man Singh invited Amir Khan to his assistance.<sup>7</sup> Though Amir Khan promised Man Singh that he would effect a reconciliation between him and the Nawab of Sind,<sup>8</sup> yet he could not come as he was busy in the affairs at Jaipur and Bundi.<sup>9</sup> Man Singh had no alternative but to request the British again to give him help by reviving the treaty of 1803.<sup>10</sup> The British showed their

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1. P.R.C. Xiv 128.
  2. Ibid. 136.
  3. Ibid.
  4. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 28th April 1813. F. P. 15th May 1813. No. 17;  
P.R.C. Xiv pp. 225-226.
  5. A letter from Man Singh to Daulat Rao dated 10th day of the dark-half of Magha, vs. 1870/16th Jan. 1814. AB. No. 5 p. 16. Jd.
  6. Ibid-dated 7th day of the bright-half of Phalguna, vs. 1870/26th Feb. 1814. AB. No. 5 p. 16 Jd,
  7. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 28th April 1813. F. P. 15th May 1813 No. 17.
  8. P.R.C. Xiv p. 226,
  9. P.R.C. Xiv 171.
  10. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 3rd April 1814. F. P. 22nd April 1814 No. 11.

inability as they were bound by their treaties with Sindia and Holkar regarding interference in Jodhpur affairs.<sup>1</sup>

To take an advantage of such a situation, Muhammad Khan, who had gone to Jaipur along with Amir Khan in October, 1812,<sup>2</sup> came back with his army and began to devastate the territory round Merta on the pretext that Man Singh had not paid the money.<sup>3</sup> Man Singh tried to pacify him by asking his *Dewan* Inder Raj Singhvi to pay him rupees 50 000 immediately.<sup>4</sup> Not satisfied with the amount, Muhammad Khan demanded Nawa in order to meet the expenses of his family. Personally he went to Jodhpur, and met the Maharaja on February 7, 1815.<sup>5</sup> Thereupon, Man Singh agreed to clear off arrears, amounting to six lacs of rupees and regularise the payment henceforth at the rate of rupees four lacs a year also allotted the districts of Nawa, Sambhar, Bilara villages of Malkot and Dangawas to him.<sup>7</sup>

Amir Khan had also come to Jodhpur in the early of 1815 and ravaged Jodhpur-Bikaner frontier.<sup>8</sup> He went to Merta to join Muhammad Khan.<sup>9</sup> He se-

Datta Ram to Man Singh to collect the money, promised to his captain.<sup>1</sup> Datta Ram met Man Singh on May 4, 1815, and having secured a part of the money, he came to Merta and presented it to Amir Khan.<sup>2</sup> Amir Khan was not happy with Man Singh for he again delayed the payment promised to his deceased brigadier.<sup>3</sup> In order to realise the remaining amount he personally marched on to Jodhpur. He reached there on August 20.<sup>4</sup> Two days later, he entered the fort with a small force and took possession of the main gate of the fort.<sup>5</sup>

The arrival of Amir Khan in the fort created a great confusion in the court. Man Singh was practically helpless to meet the new situation. His *Dewan* Inder Raj and Deo-Nath Vyas on behalf of Man Singh began negotiations with him on the very day he occupied the fort.<sup>6</sup> Amir Khan demanded rupees four lacs. Inder Raj could spare only rupees two to three lacs at that time.<sup>7</sup> No tangible results of the negotiations were forthcoming. It dragged on upto September 9.<sup>8</sup> Then Amir Khan took a new recourse to press the matters in his favour. He exploited the rift in the court, which was beyond reconciliations.

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1. Ibid

2. Hakikat Bahi No. 10 p. 58. Jd;  
Prinsep : Memoirs of Amir Khan p. 432.

3. Hakikat Bahi No. 10. p. 72. Jd.;  
P. R. C. xiv 225. A;  
In the meantime Muhammad Shah had died.

4. Hakikat Bahi No. 10 p. 78. Jd.;

5. Ibid. p. 80.

6. Ibid.

7. Hakikat Bahi No. 10. p. 89.; Jd.  
Mundiyad Khyat (Man Singh) pp. 120-121. Basta no. 40. Jd.

8. Hakikat Bahi no. 10 p. 84. Jd.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS.

Since 1812, Inder Raj had combined in himself the duties of the *Dewan* and *Bakhshi*. He and Deo Nath became practically the dictators of the state. None could approach the Maharaja except these two. By a decree, the Raja had bestowed all powers on them for five years. It created discontent among the courtiers. Muhta Akhay Chand, Vyas Chaturbhuj, Mehta Suraj Mal, Sahib Chand and Vyas Suraj Nath, younger brother of Deo Nath formed a rival group against Inder Raj. The discontent was also highlighted by Inder Raj's measures to economise the state finances. He demobilised the mercenary force, which was not satisfied by the small amount of the arrears paid. Amir Khan stepped in and contacted the group led by Akhay Chand. The leading nobles like Thakur Keshri Singh, Hari Singh of Asop, Bakhtawar Singh of Umboha, Sultan Singh of Nimaj and Partap Singh of Ladso also joined him.<sup>1</sup>

The chief wife of Man Singh had her own grievances against Inder Raj.<sup>2</sup> She sent her son Chhatar Singh to meet Amir Khan in his camp on September 10, 1815.<sup>3</sup> Chhatar Singh had a long private talk with Amir Khan.<sup>4</sup> Sources are silent about the subject matter of the talks but the subsequent events lead us to believe that a plan was hatched to murder Inder Raj and Deo Nath and force Man Singh to abdicate in

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1. Mundiya Khyat ( Man Singh ) pp. 115-119, Basta no. 40 Jd;  
Marwar Khyat Vol iv p. 73;  
Prinsep : Memoirs of Amir Khan p. 433.

2. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 25th Oct. 1815 F. P. 10th Nov, 1815. No. 16;

Prinsep : Memoirs of Amir Khan P. 434;  
Wilson : Vol. viii p. 126.

3. Hakikat Bahi No 10 p 84 Jd.

4. Ibid.

favour of his son.<sup>1</sup> The rival party promised to pay him rupees seven lacs in cash for this act.<sup>2</sup>

On getting five lacs from the conspirators,<sup>3</sup> Amir Khan decided to remove Inder Raj and Deo Nath from the power.<sup>4</sup> The city was immediately put under his force.<sup>5</sup> The fort was already under his infantry.<sup>6</sup> Soon he got a favourable opportunity for his action. In the evening of October 9, 1815, Inder Raj and Deo Nath were conferring in one of the palaces of the fort. The news was conveyed to Amir Khan by the inmates of the palace, who were the confidants of Akhay Chand group. Amir Khan sent a party of 25 to 30 soldiers under the leadership of Kutubuddin to wait upon the ministers. The party was instructed to commit the crime while demanding the payments of the tribute. The party met the ministers at about 8 P. M.<sup>7</sup> Inder Raj agreed to pay the amount promised by instalments within nine months but Kutubuddin demanded ready money. A hot discussion followed. The soldiers tried to kidnap Inder Raj but failed.<sup>8</sup> Then they murdered him along with

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1. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 2nd Dec. 1815 F. p. 13th Jan. 1816. No. 27.
  2. Mundiya Khyat ( Man Singh ) p. 122. Basta no. 40. Jd; Marwar Khyat Vol. iv p. 73. Tod Vol. ii p. 1091.
  3. P. R. C. Xiv 243.
  4. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 17th Oct, 1815, F. P. 10th Nov. 1815. No. 14.
  5. Ibid-dated 2nd Nov. 1815. F. P. 25 Nov. 1815. No. 3.
  6. Hakikat Bahi No. 10. p. 80 Jd.
  7. Ibid. p. 88; Mundiya Khyat ( Man Singh ) p. 123. Basta no. 40. Jd; A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 17th Oct, 1815, F. P. 10th Nov. 1815 No. 14.
  8. A letter from Metcalf to J. Adams dated 25th Oct. 1815, F. P. 10th Nov. 1815 No. 16.



## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

leo Nath and five others, who were present there.<sup>1</sup> The murderers were safely removed at night out of the fort by Vyas Nath, ladies, officials and chiefs present in the fort.<sup>2</sup> Man Singh was closely watched in his apartment. He was not allowed to communicate with anyone. His body-guards and menials were replaced. He was virtually imprisoned by Vyas Nathurbhuj.<sup>3</sup> When the news of the murders spread among the people, they disapproved Amir Khan's action and showed signs of revolt. But the Pathan chief minimised the chances of

Hakikat Bahi No. 10. p. 88 Jd.;

A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 17th Oct 1815 F. P. 10th Nov. 1815, No. 14; another letter to Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 25th Oct. 1815. F. P. 10th Nov. 1815. No. 16.

Tod remarks that 'Raja Man was privy to the murder' ( Vol. ii p. 827 ); Prinsep supports Tod's view ( A history of Pol. and Mil. Trans. in India Vol. I p. 338 ); Amir Khan in his memoirs ( Translated by Prinsep ) referred the attitude of Man Singh towards Inder Raj as hostile ( pp. 413-414 ) but he exonerated Raja from a party to the murder ( p. 434 ). However he accepted that he joined the party in the court which had planned for the murder. The reason of his joining was the detection of a murder plan against him organised by the minister and the priest ( pp. 434-435 ); Metcalfe could not decide the truth about the contradictory reports reached to him, hence he wrote to J. Adams on 25th Oct. 1815 that 'The Raja or some powerful party in the fort must have been accessory to the murder of the ministers (F. P. 10th Nov. 1815. No. 16); Prinsep, later on, corrected himself and accepted Amir Khan's version ( Memoirs of Amir Khan p. 434. ff. );

However, the knowledge of Tod and Prinsep was based on a report of Jodhpur agent at Delhi, who told the Resident that the murder was done at the instigation of Man Singh ( Wilson : Vol. viii p. 127 ff 1 ). He belonged to the party of Akhay Raj ( Wilson : Vol. viii p. 127 ff. 1 ). As such his report was to blackmail the Raja. Mundiyyad Khyat mentions that Man Singh ordered to kill the murderers of his Dewan and Guru but nobody obeyed him ( p. 124 ).

2. Hakikat Bahi No. 10. p. 89. Jd.

3. Mundiyyad Khyat (Man Singh) p. 124. Basta No. 40 JJ.;

Tod Vol. ii pp. 830, 1091;

Wilson Vol. viii p. 127.

agitation by ordering his soldiers to loot the city.<sup>1</sup> He also threatened to kill Man Singh, in case further opposition from the people came in.<sup>2</sup>

Apparently under Amir Khan's influence a new government under Akhay Chand was installed.<sup>3</sup> It agreed to pay rupees 20 lacs to Amir Khan.<sup>4</sup> Five lacs were already paid. Of the remaining, two were to be paid immediately and the rest of the amount was to be paid after the winter crop.<sup>5</sup> Amir Khan showed his eagerness to leave Jodhpur as soon as he was paid but his real intention was to stay and place Chhatar Singh on the throne.<sup>6</sup> In order to achieve it, he tried to gain the possession of Man Singh but he could not succeed.<sup>7</sup> Thereupon, he left Jodhpur in December, 1815.<sup>8</sup>

In the meantime, Gul Raj, brother of the deceased Inder Raj contacted Bapuji Sindia for help and proceeded to Jodhpur to relieve the state from Amir Khan's influence.<sup>9</sup> They arrived on January 29, 1816.<sup>10</sup> Akhay Raj put up a resistance, but failed. He was forced to resign his post, giving place to Fateh

1. Mundiya Khyat (Man Singh) p. 125. Basta no. 40. Jd.

2. Ibid.

3. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 2nd Nov. 1815. F.P. 25th Nov. 1815 No. 31.

4. P.R.C. Xiv 243.

5. P.R.C. Xiv 243.

6. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 2nd Dec. 1815. F.P. 13th Jan. 1816. No. 27.

7. Ibid.

8. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv pp. 73-74;

Prinsep: Memoirs of Amir Khan p. 4.

9. A letter from Daulat Rao Sindia to Jagat Singh of Jaipur dated vs. 1873/1816. (KS). Jd.

10. Hakikat Bahi No 10 p. 94 Jd.

Raj. Man Singh approved the changes by a decree on February 1, 1816.<sup>1</sup>

Under such a change, Bapuji's influence was predominating in the capital. He, as usual, demanded a high price for his service and at the same time, opened negotiations with Amir Khan.<sup>2</sup> Man Singh was not happy over the demand and activities of Bapuji,<sup>3</sup> but he did not take the risk to antagonise him at this stage.<sup>4</sup> However, the instability of the political situation at Jodhpur in September-November, 1816,<sup>5</sup> gave another opportunity both to Amir Khan and Bapuji Sindia to support their partisans and take full advantage for their gains.<sup>6</sup> Both Amir Khan and Bapuji marched towards Jodhpur in the beginning of November, 1816 to help their partisans.<sup>7</sup> Amir Khan's stay at Jodhpur was further necessitated by the British attitude towards the Pindaries as Chitu another leader of the horde of Pindaries, wrote to Amir Khan in January 1817, that he should try to secure from Jodhpur government the residence formerly assigned to the family of Holkar for them and that he should soon intimate him about its success.<sup>8</sup> Both Amir Khan and

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1. Ibid;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 73-74.
  2. P.R.C. xiv 277.
  3. A letter from Close to J. Adams dated 31st May 1816. F. S. 15th June 1816 No. 10;  
P.R.C. xiv 277, 282.
  4. A letter from Man Singh to Bapuji Sindia dated 30th day of the dark-half of Bhadrpada vs. 1873/23rd August 1816. AB No. 5. p. 46. Jd.
  5. Hakikat Bahi No. 10 pp. 107 and 110. Jd.  
There were changes of governments first under Gul Raj, then again under Fateh Raj.
  6. P. R. C. Xiv 292.
  7. Ibid.
  8. P.R.C. Xiv pp. 367-368.

Bapuji Sindia ravaged the land of Marwar with all the ferocity at their command.<sup>1</sup>

Man Singh was powerless to check it, hence, he tried to pacify both by paying a part of the money demanded by them.<sup>2</sup> But his *Dewan*, Gul Raj asked another general of Sindia, Dhan Singh, to come to his aid with a brigade.<sup>3</sup> Before his arrival, a *Coup d'etat* was staged. Gul Raj was murdered on April 4, 1817,<sup>4</sup> and Fateh Raj was imprisoned with the help of Amir Khan's soldiers.<sup>5</sup> The *Coup* leaders, Akhay Raj, Salim Singh and Vyas Bhim Nath, then, forced the Maharaja to retire.<sup>6</sup> The Maharaja, under duress, signed his abdication on April 19, 1817 and nominated his son, Chhatra Singh as *Yuvraj*.<sup>7</sup> The *Yuvraj*

1. A letter from Man Singh to Daulat Rao dated 12th day of the bright-half of Phalguna vs. 1873/28th February 1817. AB. No. 5. p. 17. Jd; P.R.C. Xiv 368.
2. A letter from Man Singh to Daulat Rao dated 12th day of the bright-half of phalguna vs. 1873/28th Feb. 1817. AB. No. 5 p. 17. Jd; P.R.C. Xiv 305.
3. P.R.C. Xiv 321.  
Dhan Singh was coming from Jaswant Rao, Sindia's official at Ajmer.
4. Hakikat Bahi No. 10 p. 117. Jd.;  
P.R.C. Xiv 313;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 75-78.  
Dhan Singh came to Jodhpur on April 15, 1817 (Hakikat Bahi No. 10 p. 121.
5. Ibid.
6. Mundiyaad Khyat (Man Singh) p. 125. Basta No. 40. Jd.
7. Hakikat Bahi No 10. p. 117. Jd;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 77-78.

A letter addressed to Jaipur ruler by Man Singh on April 20, 1817 and to British, received by them on June 13, 1817 show that the transfer of power of his government was done in accordance of his free will. A Kharita from Man Singh to Jagat Singh dated 4th day of the bright-half of Vaisaka vs, 1873/20th April 1817. Jp. and a letter from Man Singh to the British Resident at Delhi received on 13th June 1817. F. P. 15 Aug. 1817. no. 40 ). But the facts mentioned above reveal that he was forced to do so. Metcalfe in his information to J. Adams also wrote on May 29, 1817 that the arrangements had been effected by a combination of the chiefs of the state. ( F. P. 14 June 1817 No. 13 ).

appointed Akhay Raj as his *Dewan* on the same day<sup>1</sup> and announced that the new administration would initiate reforms in Marwar.<sup>2</sup> These changes were made under Amir Khan's influence. He was immediately paid for his services by the new government.<sup>3</sup>

(F) British treaty with Marwar vindicating the stopping of the tribute to Sindia, January 6, 1818.

Man Singh's relations with the British were not good since he had not ratified the Anglo-Rathor treaty of 1803. The British also took a serious view of his keeping the family of Holkar in his state. When the ruler tried to revive the treaty of 1803, several times in 1805,<sup>4</sup> 1807,<sup>5</sup> 1812<sup>6</sup> and finally in 1814,<sup>7</sup> it was rejected by the British government, on the ground that bound by the article eight of the treaty with Sindia,<sup>8</sup> by which it had agreed to Sindia's hold on Jodhpur, they could not entertain the overtures of the ruler of Jodhpur. However, a change appeared in the British policy, when Lord Hastings adopted the policy of establishing the unquestioned supremacy

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1. Hakikat Bahi No. 10. p. 118. Jd,
  2. A Kharita from Maharaja of Kishangarh to Chhatar Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of 1st Sravana vs. 1874/3rd July 1817. P. F. 4 File 8/11 Kh. 1. Jd.
  3. Mundiyaad Khyat (Man Singh) p. 126. Basta no. 40. Jd.
  4. P.R.C. Xi 182.
  5. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated 20th Feb, 1807. F. P. 12th March 1807. No. 26.
  6. P.R.C. Xiv 98.
  7. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 3rd April 1814. F. P. 22nd April 1814. No. 11.
  8. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 3rd April 1814. F. P. 22nd April 1814. No. 11.

## BRITISH TREATY WITH MARWAR

of British rule throughout India in early 1814<sup>1</sup> The fulfilment of this policy involved a war with the Marathas, the only power in India to be dealt with. To weaken them Lord Hastings deprived them of their Pindari hordes by waging a war against them and then bringing their tribute paying states to his side.

As soon as the war with Nepal was brought to a close in March 1816, Lord Hastings paid his attention to the affairs of Rajputana.<sup>2</sup> The British government decided in April 1816, to help the ruler of Jodhpur against the Pindari hordes, provided the Raja accepted the policy set by the Governor General.<sup>3</sup> Man Singh did not like the British alliance, which would reduce him to a sub-ordinate position.<sup>4</sup> But the subsequent ravages of Amir Khan and Bapuji Sindia throughout 1816<sup>5</sup> and in the first half of 1817<sup>6</sup> so changed the political situation in Marwar that the *Vakil* of the Maharaja at Delhi, Asopa Bishan Ram contacted the British for the treaty.<sup>7</sup> This was a welcome move and Lord Hastings annulled the treaty and freed British government from the artical eight of the treaty with Sindia, on the ground that the Sindia was carrying secret negotiations with the Peshwa and Ranjit Singh for the subversion of the British government.<sup>8</sup>

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1. The private Journal of Marquess of Hastings p. 30.

2. Wheeler J. Talboys p. 201.

3. P.R.C. xiv 267.

4. A letter from Close to G. G. dated 22nd May 1816, F. S. 11th June 1816 No. 28.

5. A letter from Close to J. Adams dated 31st May 1816, F. S. 15th June 1816. No. 10; P.R.C. Xiv 282, 291, 292

6. Ibid. 298, 299 and pp. 367-368.

7. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv pp. 82-83;  
Tod : Vol. ii p. 1093.

8. General Appendix to Report from S. C. on the affairs of the E. I. Committee Lord Hasting's Summary p. 100 ( Quoted in B. D. Basu's Rise of the Christian power in India Vol. iv p. 191;  
Wheeler J. Talboys pp. 223-224.

In October, 1817, Metcalfe, who was authorised by the Governor General to make final settlement with Marwar<sup>1</sup>, opened negotiations with the Jodhpur agents at Delhi.<sup>2</sup> But negotiation did not make any head way.<sup>3</sup> Conditions at Jodhpur were not stable. The Maharaja was a semi-prisoner. The Yuvraj did not send any authorised agent to conclude the peace.<sup>4</sup> However, negotiations were revived in December 1817, by Man Singh<sup>5</sup> and a treaty jointly under the name of Man Singh and Yuvraj Chhatar Singh was concluded on January 6, 1818.<sup>6</sup>

The terms of the treaty,<sup>7</sup> concluded between Metcalfe and Asopa Bishan Ram were :

1. There shall be perpetual friendship, alliance and unity of interest between the Honourable East India Company and Maharaja Man Singh, and his heirs and successors, and the friends and enemies of one party shall be the friends and enemies of both.
2. The British government engages to protect the principality and territory of Jodhpur,

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1. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv pp. 82-83;  
Wheeler J. Talbodys pp. 223-224.

2. P.R.C. Xiv 321.

3. A letter from Metcalfe to Ochterlony dated 25th Nov, 1817 F. S. 19th Dec. 1817. No. 112.

4. Ibid.

5. A letter from Raja of Jodhpur to G. G. received on 1st Jan. 1818. F. P. 20th Feb. 1818 No. 57

6. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 15th Jan 1818. F. S. 6th Feb. 1818 No. 102.

7. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv pp. 92-84;  
Aitichison : T. E. S. Vol. iii pp. 128-129.

## BRITISH TREATY WITH MARWAR

3. Maharaja Man Singh and his heirs and successors will act in subordinate co-operation with the British Government and acknowledge its supremacy; and will not have any connection with other chiefs and states.
4. 'The Maharaja and his heirs and successors will not enter into any negotiation with any chief or state without the knowledge and sanction of the British Government; but his usual amicable correspondence with friends and relations shall continue.
5. 'The Maharaja and his heirs and successors will not commit aggressions on any one. If, by accident, dispute arises with any one, they shall be submitted to the arbitration and award of the British government.
6. 'The tribute heretofore paid to Sindia by the state of Jodhpur, shall be paid in perpetuity to the British Government and engagements of the state of Jodhpur with Sindia respecting tribute shall cease.
7. 'As the Maharaja declared that besides the tribute paid to Sindia by the state of Jodhpur, tribute has not been paid to any other state, and engages to pay aforesaid tribute to British government; if either Sindia or any one else lay claim to the tribute, the British government engages to reply to such claim.
8. 'Th Jodhpur government shall furnish 1,500 horse for the service of the British government whenever required; and when necessary the whole of the Jodhpur forces shall join the British army excepting such a portion as may be requisite for the internal administration of the country.



9. 'The Maharaja and his heirs and successors shall remain absolute rulers of their country, and the jurisdiction of the British government shall not be introduced into that principality.
10. 'The treaty of ten articles having been concluded at Delhi and signed and sealed by Charles Theophilus Metcalfe and Byas Bishnu Ram and Byas Ubee Ram the ratification of the same by his Excellency, the Governor General and by Raj Rajeesur Maharaja Man Singh Bahadur and Joograj Maharaj Koowar Chutter Singh Bahadur shall be exchanged within six weeks from this date ( January 6, 1818 ).

The treaty was ratified by Lord Hastings on January 16, 1818.<sup>1</sup> It was sent to Man Singh, who lived at Mandor, five miles north of Jodhpur, where he put his signature on the Persian version of the agreement in the presence of the *Yuvraj* on February 9, 1818.<sup>2</sup>

The treaty put an end to the relation of Jodhpur rulers with Sindia to whom they had been a tribute paying state since 1756.<sup>3</sup> The tribute paid by Man Singh to Sindia was henceforth to be paid to the British government, though the amount fixed was 1,08,000 rupees a year. The British government became responsible for dealing with all cases of Jodhpur government's

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1. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv p. 84;

Aitchison : T. E. S. Vol. iii p. 130.

2. Hakikat Bahi no. 10. p. 202. Jd.

3. The yearly amount of the tribute; which Man Singh paid to Sindia was rupees 1,80,000 ( Rupees 1,50,000 for Marwar and Rupees 30,000 for Godwad ). After various deductions Sindia received rupees 97, 200 a year only. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 15th Jan. 1818. F. S. 6th Feb. 1818. No. 102

## BRITISH TREATY WITH MARWAR

relations with Sindia regarding the affairs of the arrears of the tribute henceforth. The influence of Amir Khan came also to an end, for the British did not acknowledge the sum paid to him as the tribute and empowered the ruler to resume Khan's *jagir* in Marwar.<sup>1</sup> By this treaty, Jodhpur became a subordinate protected state of the East India Company. The Maharaja agreed to contribute a force of 1,500 cavalry, when and as required by the paramount power. Under Sindia, Jodhpur was only a tribute-paying state. It was free to enter into any kind of relations with any other power in India. Sindia cared only for the regular payment of the tribute.<sup>2</sup> Whereas, the treaty with the East India Company had not only reduced it to a subordinate position of tributary state but also deprived it of its foreign relations. It could not maintain any relation with any state without the approval of the British authority. Though the treaty did not include any article about the interference in the internal affairs, yet it was apprehended that the British government would not remain a silent spectator, if such a situation, as would necessitate their interference in the internal matters, arise<sup>3</sup>

Soon after the ratification of the treaty Chhatar Singh died on March 23, 1818.<sup>4</sup> Dreading Raja Man Singh's regaining

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1. The immediate benefit resulted to the Raja from the ejection of all the Thanas placed in the country by Amir Khan and other Pathan chiefs (Prinsep : History of Pol. and Mil. Transaction in India Vol. ii p. 358 ).
  2. Hath Bahi No. 2 p. 134. Jd.;  
A letter from Mahadaji Sindia to Bijay Singh dated 7th day of the bright-half of Asvina vs. 1843/29th Sept. 1785. Pf 6 LN. 55. Jd.
  3. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 15th Jan. 1818. F. S. 6th Feb. 1818 No. 102.
  4. Hakikat Bahi No. 10. p. 207. Jd.;  
A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 2nd April, 1818. F. P. 24th April 1818 No 46.

the government, Akhay Chand and Salim Singh intended to put Dhonkal Singh who was residing near Delhi at that time, on the throne of Jodhpur.<sup>1</sup> Man Singh lost no time and contacted the Resident at Delhi through General Luni Akhtar and Munshi Mahmud Baz on July 23, 1818 and later on, through Barkat Ali in October.<sup>2</sup> A British brigade under Ochterlony proceeded to Jodhpur on October 6.<sup>3</sup> The British interference helped Man Singh in November to effect his public resumption of the reins of government of Jodhpur.<sup>4</sup>

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1. Ibid;

Tod mentions that the Pokran faction made an application to Idar ruler for a son to be adopted as their sovereign but it was rejected by him ( Vol. ii p. 1092);

Even during the period of his retirement, Man Singh's enemies tried to poison him sometimes by mixing drugs within his food, and sometimes by putting snakes in his bed. ( A letter from Wilder to Ochterlony dated 22nd Feb. 1821. F. P. 21st March 1821. No. 14 ).

2. Hakikat Bahi No. 10 p. 210 and pp. 213- 214; p. 216. Jd.

3. A letter from Ochterlony to J. Adams dated 15th Nov. 1818. F; P. 26th Dec. 1818. No. 55.

4. Ibid,

## CHAPTER VI

# The Maratha Exit (1818-1843 A.D.)

### (A) Madhu Raj Bhonsle (Appa Sahib) and the British power

Raghuji Bhonsle, after his sad experience of war in 1803 with the British, continued to maintain an attitude of sullen indifference towards the Maratha confederacy—confining his attention only to the protection of his territory of Nagpur against future British inroads. His death on March 22, 1816, facilitated British penetration in Nagpur, which he had long resisted. He was succeeded by his son, Parsaji Bala Sahib, who was incapable of conducting the affairs of the state—being blind and paralytic. Madhu Raj Bhonsle, the nephew<sup>1</sup> of the late Raghuji Bhonsle was appointed the regent for the new ruler. He strengthened his position by entering into a secret treaty with the British on May 28, 1816. A British force under Col. Doveton arrived at Nagpur on June 18, to crush all possible opposition to Appa Sahib. The consequent confusion brought about the death of Parsaji on February 1, 1817, and Appa Sahib became the ruler of Nagpur with the British support on April 25, 1817.<sup>2</sup>

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1. He was the son of Vyankoji Manya Bapu, younger brother of Raghuji. He died in 1811 at Benaras ( P.R.C. v 214 ).

2. P.R.C. v 227, 229-231;  
Jenkin's Report on Nagpur pp. 68-69.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS.

Soon after his accession, Appa Sahib Changed his attitude towards the British government. He dismissed his minister responsible for negotiating the treaty with the British. He sent secret communications to the Peshwa Baji Rao II and other Maratha leaders, indicating his desire to make a common cause against the British. He enlisted new recruits and maintained a larger force than he was entitled to. It was all in contravention to the treaty of May, 1816, and was intolerable for the British.<sup>1</sup> The matter became worse when he joined the cause of the Peshwa against the British in November 1817.<sup>2</sup> The British moved armies against him, resulting in his deposition from the throne.<sup>3</sup> He was taken prisoner but some how managed to flee in May, 1818.<sup>4</sup> In 1819 he proceeded to the Punjab, where he remained with Ranjit Singh for sometime.<sup>5</sup> In 1820, he found shelter at Oonah near the Simla hills, which were under the control of Sahib Singh Bedi.<sup>6</sup> Later on, he made Mandi, his residence.<sup>7</sup> But in February, 1828, he came to Amritsar and lived there in seclusion.<sup>8</sup>

One of the despatches, intercepted by Wellesley, Resident at Indore, indicates that, while staying at Mandi Appa Sahib

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1. P.R.C. v 232

2. P.R.C. v 235;  
Jenkin's report on Nagpur pp. 71-72.

3. P.R.C. v 235.

4. Ibid. 236;  
Calcutta Gazetteer ( 1813-1823 ) Vol. v, p. 259.

5. P.R.C. v 248.

6. Ibid.

7. A memorandum on the intrigues of Gangā Singh and others from Hawkins to Swinton. F. P, 16th April 1830. No. 25.

8. Ibid. No. 26.

reloped good relations with many persons in Rajasthan.<sup>1</sup> It ther says that Appaji sent one Ganga Singh to various states Rajasthan in order to secure the support of his cause.<sup>2</sup> At the close of the Burmese war in 1826, Appaji, taking advantage of the resentment of local rulers<sup>3</sup> against the British, asked an agent to meet Metcalfe and Colebrooke<sup>4</sup> in order to get favourable terms for a compromise with the British. He met Colebrooke on October 10, 1827<sup>5</sup> and wrote to Sir John Malcolm on February 8, 1828, about his mission.<sup>6</sup> However, Colebrooke was ordered by the Governor General in May, 1828, to discontinue all intercourses with Ganga Singh.<sup>7</sup> Even help from Ranjit Singh could not be secured for his cause.<sup>8</sup>

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1. Ibid. No. 25.

2. Ibid.

He visited Bharatpur, Jaipur, Karauli, Fatehpur, Tonk and Udaipur. At Ajmer he was apprehended in 1825, under a charge of raising troops for the service of Appa Sahib. But the charge could not be proved and he was released in September 1826. (A letter from Metcalfe to A. Stirling, Persian Secretary to G.G. dated 20th Sept. 1826. F.P. 25th Oct. 1820, No. 4.

3. To meet the expenses of the Burmese war, the G.G. took from the Princes of India, the following amount, which they gave grudgingly. King of Oudh paid pounds 1,00,000 sterling; Raja of Nagpur paid pounds 50,000; Raja of Banaras paid pounds 20,000; Baji Rao, the ex-Peshwa, paid a very considerable sum out of his pension. Lord Ahmerst's conduct with the Emperor during his visit to him in February, 1827, was also humiliating to Indian sentiments. (B. D. Basu: Rise of the Christian power in India Vol. iv pp. 440-441).

4. A memorandum on the intrigues of Ganga Singh and others, from Hawkins to Swinton F. P. 16th April 1830, No. 25 and 26.

5. Ibid. No. 25.

6. Ibid. No. 26

7. A letter from Secretary to G. G. to Resident, Delhi dated 23rd May 1828. F. P. 23rd May 1828 No. 41.

8. A memorandum on the intrigues of Ganga Singh and others, from Hawkins to Swinton F. P. 16th April 1830 No. 25 and 26.

**(B) Man Singh helps Bhonsle against the British.**

Coming down from the hills and failing to find support in other parts of Rajasthan and the Punjab, Appaji moved towards Bikaner in 1829<sup>1</sup> (about March). He resided at the holy temple at Deshnok.<sup>2</sup> He tried to settle his differences with the British government by promising to pay six annas in a rupee to the British, on his restoration.<sup>3</sup> The British did not entertain the move.<sup>4</sup> However, he was popular at Nagpur. The people of that part of the country were regularly financing him and money reached him through his agents in Rajasthan and outside.<sup>5</sup> While residing at Deshnok, he wrote to Maharaja Man Singh of Jodhpur to permit him to reside at Nagor.<sup>6</sup> The British government adopted a stern attitude towards Bikaner and Jodhpur. The Governor General reprimanded the ruler of Bikaner for giving asylum to Appa Sahib in violation of the treaty obligations and was instructed not to let him pass on into the adjoining territories of Jodhpur or Jaipur.<sup>7</sup> Man-Singh was also instructed to apprehend or detain Appaji, if he

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1. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 19th March 1829. F. P. 5th June 1829, No. 12.
  2. A letter from Colebrooke to Cavendish dated 20th May 1829. F. P. 5th June 1829; No. 13.
  3. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 19th March 1829, F. P. 5th June 1829, No. 12.
  4. Ibid.
  5. Letters from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 8th and 13th May 1829. F.P., 5th June 1829, No. 12 and 13;  
Maratha papers about Appa Sahib dated 13th Aug. and 15th Aug. 1829, F.P. 28th May 1830, No. 15.
  6. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 8th May 1829. F. P. 5th June 1829, No. 12
  7. A letter from Colebrooke to Cavendish dated 16th May 1829 F. P. 5th June, 1829, No. 12.

crossed over to Marwar.<sup>1</sup> Thereupon Appa Sahib was asked to leave Bikaner after a stay of more than two months.<sup>2</sup>

With a circuitous route through Bhawalpur<sup>3</sup> he crossed the frontiers of Marwar<sup>4</sup> and reached Nagor with 300 followers,<sup>5</sup> posing as a friend of the British.<sup>6</sup> At Nagor he did not remain silent, but kept his contacts with his friends at Nagpur.<sup>7</sup> He arrived at Mandor in April 1829, and requested the Maharaja to allow him to reside there for some days.<sup>8</sup> Suspecting his march towards the Deccan, the British Resident asked the Vakil of Jodhpur at Delhi to urge his master to comply with his previous instructions about Appa Sahib strictly.<sup>9</sup> He was asked to convey to him that Appa Sahib must be expelled towards Sind or Bhawalpur<sup>10</sup> and some men from Jodhpur must be deputed to take Appa Sahib back by the same route from

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1. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 8th May 1829 F. P. 5th June 1829, No. 12.
  2. Ibid-dated 25th May 1829. F. P. 19th June 1829, No. 26. and dated 11th June 1829, F. P. 3rd July 1829, No. 28.
  3. A letter from Colebrooke to Cavendish dated 20th May 1829. F. P. 5th June 1829, No. 13.
  4. Letters from Colebrooke to Swinton dated 2nd and 4th June 1829 F. P. 19th June 1829, Nos. 26 and 27.
  5. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 25th May 1829. F. P. 19th June 1829, No. 26.
  6. Ibid.
  7. Ibid.
  8. A letter from Cavendish to Man Singh dated 8th May 1829, J. B. R. S. Vol. XXXiii (1947) Pt. I and II.
  9. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 25th May, 1829 F. P. 19th June 1829, No. 26.
  10. A letter from the Resident, Delhi to Mehta Buch Raj, Political agent of Jodhpur F. P. 19th June 1829, No. 26.



which he had come there.<sup>1</sup> At first Appa Sahib was refused permission<sup>2</sup> but ultimately he was allowed to stay.<sup>3</sup> He was lodged at Mahamandir,<sup>4</sup> now a suburb of Jodhpur city.

Man Singh was not happy with the British. They had supported the rising of feudal chiefs against him in 1827-1828.<sup>5</sup> Moreover, he thought it his right to give asylum to any person without being questioned by the British, as he was under no obligation to the British to act according to their directions in his internal affairs.<sup>6</sup> The letters, which he received from the British government, through his agent at Delhi, and in which he was repeatedly questioned about the lodging of a British criminal at Jodhpur, were disliked by him.<sup>7</sup> In reply to these letters, Man Singh took a bold step and wrote in the strain, 'An agent of Appa Sahib is permitted to reside at Delhi. On what principle do you require me to disgrace myself by expelling

1. A letter from Cavendish to Man Singh dated 8th May 1829. J. B. R. S. Vol. XXXiii (1947) Pt. I and II.

2. Ibid.

3. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 27th May 1829; F. P. 19th June 1829. No. 27.

4. Ibid.-dated 8th June 1829 F. P. 3rd July 1829 No. 25.

5. Man Singh had asked the British to come to his aid to repress the feudal rising which tried to strengthen itself by putting forward the case of Dhonkal Singh. The British adopted the policy that their government was not pledged to protect him for his misrule. However, they interfered later on and made Man Singh to accommodate the demands of the chiefs by restoring the confiscated lands (Wilson : Vol. ix pp. 309-311).

6. A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 23rd Sept. 1829. F. P. 7th Nov. 1829, No. 3.

7. A letter from Cavendish to Man Singh dated 8th May 1829. J. B. R. S. Vol. XXXiii (1947) Pt. I and II. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 25th May 1829 F. P. 19th June 1829, No. 26;  
A letter from Resident Delhi to Mehta Buch Raj F. P. 19th June 1829, No. 26.

the master from my principalities.<sup>1</sup> He further declared that by the treaty he was not bound to deliver an enemy of the British government.<sup>2</sup> However, Man Singh was very particular to sound the reaction of the British on this issue. He sent one Babu, a Bengali employee in his state, to secretly know about the reactions of the authorities at Ajmer.<sup>3</sup>

The British government suspected that Man Singh was in league with Appa Sahib in order to send him to Nagpur via Pushkar in disguise of a pilgrim.<sup>4</sup> To counteract this move, letters were sent to the political agents at Nagpur, Indore, Gwalior, Sagaur, Kota, Udaipur and Jaipur to alert them and to be on their guard against it.<sup>5</sup> At the same time, refuting Man Singh's stand on the issue of treaty obligation, the British agent at Ajmer informed him that the state was not justified in giving an asylum to the enemies of the British,<sup>6</sup> as such Appa Sahib should be arrested.<sup>7</sup>

It appears from the letter<sup>8</sup> of Cavendish to Colebrooke, dated June 20, 1829, that Appa Sahib had left Mahamandir and

1. Letters from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 8th June 1829; F. P. 3rd July 1829, No. 25 and 20th June 1829 F. P. 7th Aug. 1829, No. 8.

2. A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 23rd Sept. 1829, F. P. 7th Nov. 1829, No. 3.

3. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 8th June 1829, F. P. 3rd July 1829, No. 25.

3. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

6. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 27th June 1829. F. P. 24th July 1829, No. 19.

Appaji was declared an enemy of British and a reward for his arrest was substituted ( P.R.C. V, 241 ).

7. A letter from Cavendish to Man Singh dated 12th June 1829. J. B. R. S. Vol. XXXiii (1947) Pt. I and II.

8. A letter from Cavendish to Colebrooke dated 26th June 1829 F. P. 31st July 1829, No 8;

A letter from Colebrooke to Swinton dated 4th July 1829. F. P. 24th July 1829, No. 20.

proceeded towards Bikaner. It was also proved by an enquiry conducted by the Political Agent at Ajmer through his news writer at Nagor.<sup>1</sup> However, again it was reported that Appa Sahib had come back to Mahamandir.<sup>2</sup> Our sources are silent whether Man Singh was a partisan in sending him away from Jodhpur or he went away on his own accord. But when he returned, he was properly looked after and lodged at Mahamandir.<sup>3</sup>

When Appa Sahib came back again to Jodhpur, it was suspected that Man Singh would substitute a stranger in his stead and allow him to escape.<sup>4</sup> It drew the attention of Hawkins, British Resident at Delhi, who asked Cavendish, Political Agent at Ajmer, to explain the reasons of the slow policy adopted by him in relation to Appa Sahib's asylum at Jodhpur.<sup>5</sup> Cavendish explained his position while submitting his report on October 10, 1829, that 'In the present time of peace and our indoubtable supremacy, no immediate danger threatened our interests from allowing Man Singh ample time, to reflect on his treaty with the British Government'.<sup>6</sup> The reply of Cavendish was not sufficient and satisfactory. The Governor General desired that Appa Sahib must be handed over to the British authorities.<sup>7</sup> The

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1. Ibid.

2. Maratha papers about Appa Sahib dated 14th July 1829. F. P. 28th May 1830, No. 15.

3. Hakikat Bahi No. 11, 218. Jd.

4. A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 10th Oct. 1829 F. P. 13th Nov. 1829, No. 9.

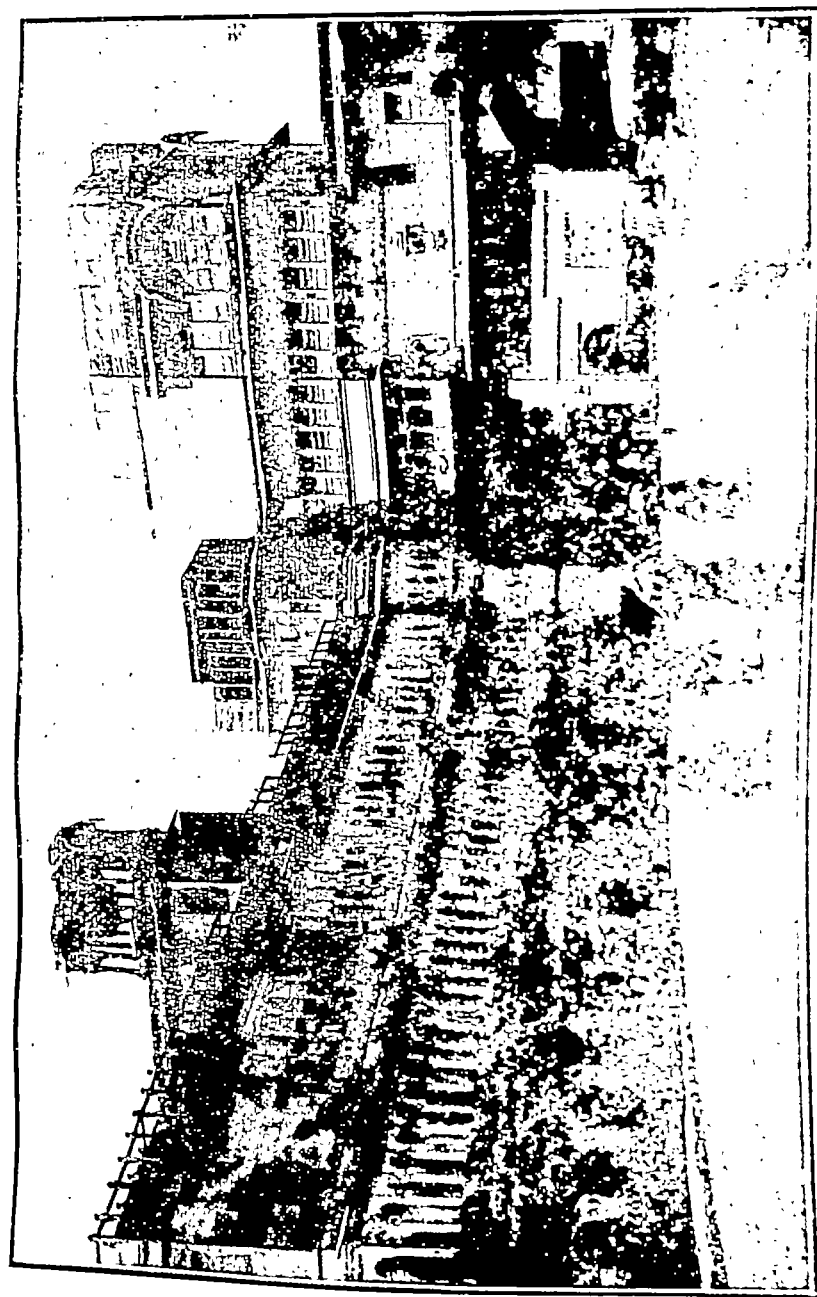
5. Ibid.

6. Ibid.

7. A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 23rd Sept. 1829 F. P. 7th Nov. 1829, No. 3;

A letter from Hawkins to Man Singh dated 2nd Oct. 1829 J. B. R. S. XXXiii (1947) Pt. I & II;

A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 12th Oct. 1829 F. P. 13th Nov. 1829, No. 9.



22-23 Mandir, Jodhpur.

government could only take over the responsibility of personal safety of Appa Sahib and guarantee comfortable subsistence.<sup>1</sup>

Man Singh was not ready to hand Appaji over and on behalf of him, he communicated to the government that his (Appa Sahib's) sister's son should be removed from the throne and be replaced by one of the main line.<sup>2</sup> He also demanded a *jagir* for Appaji, so that it might satisfy him.<sup>3</sup> The government did not entertain the overtures. The Resident threatened Man Singh that insisting on any term previous to his surrender might be considered a bargain, hence a violation of the treaty.<sup>4</sup> As such the government would be bound to revise its attitude if Dhonkal Singh asked for the same claim.<sup>5</sup> The Political Agent at Ajmer deputed one Laxmi Chand to Jodhpur in the beginning of October, 1829, with his injunction to the Maharaja to deliver Appa Sahib.<sup>6</sup>

Man Singh turned a deaf ear to the mission of Laxmi Chand and began to make preparations for the defence of Jodhpur,<sup>7</sup> in case there was any eventual possibility of a struggle with the British. The troops were alerted.<sup>8</sup> Recruits were taken

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1. A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 12th Oct. 1829 F. P. 13th Nov. 1829 No. 9.

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

6. Extracts from intelligence respecting Appa Sahib from Jodhpur received on 19th Oct. 1829.

(A letter from Cavendish to Swinton dated 12th Oct. 1829. F. P. 13th Nov. 1829, No. 9).

7. Ibid.

8. Ibid.

into the army.<sup>1</sup> which was placed under the command of Kaur Chaud.<sup>2</sup> In order to have internal stability Bhim Nath, the powerful leader of the Na'hs was reconciled to him.<sup>3</sup> He requested his friends in different parts of Rajasthan and the ruler of Tonk, to support him at this juncture.<sup>4</sup> But there was no hopeful response;<sup>5</sup> Moreover, his feudal chiefs and Dhonkal Singh were also in touch with the British.<sup>6</sup>

Finding his position at stake, Man Singh opened negotiations with the British. He sent two letters to Lord William Bentinck, Governor General of British India, one directly received by him on October 16, 1829<sup>7</sup> and another through the British Resident at Delhi, received by him on October 19, 1829.<sup>8</sup> The purport of the two letters is summarised as follows. Appa Sahib was still detained at Mahamandir. He had no longer any power or wish to excite disturbances in the British territory but hoped

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1. *Ibid.*

2. Extract of the newspaper from Jodhpur dated 17th Oct. 1829 (A letter from Hawkins to Swinton dated 10th Nov. 1829. F. P. 4th Dec. 1829, No. 10).

3. Extract of the newspaper from Jodhpur dated 18th and 20th Oct. 1829 from Hawkins to Swinton dated 10th Nov. 1829. F. P. 4th Dec 1829, No. 10.

4. The differences were over the succession on the Gaddi of Ayasji Maharaj. Bhim Nath wanted that his son should be adopted by the mother of Ladoo Nath. Man Singh was reluctant to accept it.

4. Extract of the intelligence respecting Appa Sahib from Tonk sent by Cavendish to Swinton on 12th Oct. 1829. F. P. 13th Nov 1829, No. 9.

5. *Ibid.*

6. A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 12th Oct. 1829. F. P. 13th Nov. 1829, No. 9.

7. A letter from Man Singh to G. G. received on 16th Oct 1829 F. P. 7th Nov. 1829, No. 5.

8. A letter from Man Singh to Hawkins received on 19th Oct 1829. F. P. 13th Nov. 1829, No. 9.

and prayed for pardon and protection from the Governor General. He was entirely ruined by the displeasure of the British Government and a pardon to him would give him peace of mind. In case, it should not be done so, Man Singh was prepared to expel him as soon as the government ordered him to that effect. Man Singh pleaded that it was his duty to respect places of sanctuary and that obligation, he would be able to fulfil if he got sympathetic consideration of his position by the British Government. If he was to seize Appa Sahib there, his name and reputation would perish. His family had ever been held in high esteem in India. In the past many people, great and small had sought refuge in his state but upto that time it had never been customary to deliver up persons of that character. He requested the Governor General not to sanction the attachment of a stigma to the state but take into consideration and order the adoption of such a measure as would appear to be a salutary and expedient.

The Governor General in reply wrote to this effect that he was prepared to consider the feelings and wishes of its allies in matters affecting their honour and reputation in the eyes of their equals and tribes. He further communicated to Man Singh that he would consider his request only on condition that he stood surety for Appa Sahib and made himself responsible for any attempt on his part to regain his lost territory of Nagpur or disturb the peace and tranquillity there.<sup>1</sup>

Man Singh was happy over the amicable settlement of the affairs.<sup>2</sup> He assured the Governor General through a letter,

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1. A letter from William Bentinck to Man Singh dated 6th November 1829. F. P. 7th Nov. 1829, No. 6;

A letter from Swinton to Hawkins dated 6th Nov. 1829 F. P. 7th Nov. 1829, No. 7.

2. A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 12th Dec. 1829. F. P. 15th Jan. 1830 No. 5.

received by him (Governor General) on February 1, 1830,<sup>1</sup> that he would implicitly carry into effect the directions issued by him and would vigilantly keep under observation the conduct and actions of Appa Sahib. After making adjustment with the British, he tried to send Appaji to Jalor,<sup>2</sup> a better defended and fortified place but Appaji was reluctant to leave Mahamandir<sup>3</sup> on the plea that it was a safer place for his stay.

Appa Sahib did not remain silent at Jodhpur. A letter dated January 26, 1833, received by Alves, Agent to Governor General at Ajmer from an *Akhbarnavis*, stationed at Jaisalmer indicated that Appaji was trying to raise an army from Jaisalmer and Bhawalpur, the neighbouring states of Jodhpur.<sup>4</sup> He sent embassies at Nagpur to create a favourable atmosphere.<sup>5</sup> A clandestine correspondence was maintained with Ambika Bai,<sup>6</sup> the second queen dowager of the late Raghuji Bhonsle. The atmosphere in 1834 was found so favourable at Nagpur that he wrote to his friends there to act speedily.<sup>7</sup> But Appa Sahib

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1. A letter from Man Singh to Governor General received on 1st February 1830. F. P. 5th March 1830, No. 79.
  2. A letter from Cavendish to Hawkins dated 12th Feb, 1830. F. P. 16th Feb, 1830, No. 16.
  3. Ibid.
  4. F. P. 27th Feb. 1833, No. 21.
  5. A letter from A. S. Grome, Resident at Nagpur to Secretary to G. G. dated 15th Sept. 1832. F. P. 29th Oct. 1832, No. 102. Prdg. p. 432.
  6. A letter from Briggs, offg. Resident of Nagpur to the Secretary to G. G. dated 18th Aug. 1834 F. P. 5th Sept. 1834, No. 20.
  7. A letter from Briggs to secretary to G. G. dated 18th August 1834—Translation of letters found from a Rasid travelling from Nagpur to Jodhpur, letter No. 3 from Appaji to Amrit Rao dated 14th June 1834. F. P. 5th Sept. 1834, No. 21, Oct. Prdg.



failed to go to Nagpur and remained at Mahamandir.<sup>1</sup> It led to the further augmenting of the relation of Man Singh with the British.<sup>2</sup>

### (C) Last days of Appaji Bhonsle at Jodhpur.

Appa Sahib took advantage of the Anglo-Afghan rift, which began in the middle of 1838. He contacted the rulers of Nepal,<sup>3</sup> Satara<sup>4</sup> and Baroda<sup>5</sup> to take up his cause. At Nagpur he had been able to create his own party, led by Banka Bai and his wife.<sup>6</sup> In response to it, the ruler of Nepal asked him to send his agents to him and he would furnish as much money as he required along with the troops.<sup>7</sup> The ruler of Baroda promised Appa Sahib to support him with 10 or 12 lacs of rupees.<sup>8</sup> Man Singh, of course, was an active associate of Appaji. He advanced money

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1. A letter from Agent to G. G. at Ajmer to Macnaghten dated 28th July 1835. F. P. 24th Aug. 1835 No. 22;  
A letter from Alves to Prescott dated 10th Nov. 1836. F. P. 12th Dec. 1836. No. 13.
  2. A letter from Agent to G. G. , Ajmer to Macnaghten dated 28th July 1835, F. P. 24th Aug. 1835, No. 22,
  3. A letter from Alves to R. Scott dated 17th July 1838 containing an Arzee from Jodhpur Vakil written on 13th July 1838. F. S. 22nd Aug. 1838, No. 36.
  4. A letter from Secretary to G. G. to R. Scott dated 10th April 1837. F. P. 10th April 1837, No. 61.
  5. A letter from Alves to Macnaghten dated 17th July 1838, F. S. 22nd Aug. 1838, No. 36.
  6. Ibid-dated 19th June 1838 F. S. 12th Sep. 1838, No. 26;  
dated 12th Sept. 1838. F. P. 23rd Jan. 1839, No. 25 and  
dated 15th Sept. 1838. F. S. 3rd Oct. 1838, No. 147.
  7. A letter from Alves to Macnaghten dated 9th Oct. 1838 F. P. 23rd Jan 1839, No. 27.
  8. Ibid-dated 17th July 1838 containing news from Jodhpur, written by Mirza Mohilah on 12th July 1838. F. S. 22nd Aug. 1838, No. 36.

which Appaji needed for the preparation of arms and purchase of ammunitions at Jodhpur.<sup>1</sup> He then, in association with his aunt and wife made out a plan. The ladies would execute a coup at Nagpur on the occasion of Dashera by arresting the ruler and he would join them near about Dewali.<sup>2</sup>

When Appa Sahib was busy in these activities, the British Government came to know that Appa Sahib had contemplated to go to Nepal or the Deccan side.<sup>3</sup> The British government took immediate steps to check his escape from Jodhpur. The ruler of Bikaner was asked to keep a strict watch on Appa Sahib at Mahamanadir.<sup>4</sup> Mounted guards were organised and put on the probable routes to be taken up by Appa Sahib,<sup>5</sup> who it was feared, might escape in disguise.<sup>6</sup>

The British adopted a stern policy concerning Appa Sahib in the beginning of 1839. The new Agent to the Governor General at Ajmer, Col. Sutherland and Capt. Ludlow visited Jodhpur in March, 1839 and insisted on Man Singh to hand over Appa Sahib to the British custody.<sup>7</sup> Col. Sutherland also

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1. Ibid-dated 9th October 1838, F. P. 23rd Jan. 1839, No. 27.
  2. Ibid-dated 12th Sept. 1838 F. P. 23rd Jan. 1839, No. 26;  
dated 9th Oct. 1838 F. P. 23rd Jan. 1839, No. 27;  
dated 22nd Oct. 1838 F. P. 23rd Jan. 1839, No. 31.
  3. A letter from Macnaghten to Alves dated 22nd Oct. 1838. F. P. 23rd Jan. 1839, No. 29.
  4. A letter from Alves to Torrens dated 22nd Dec. 1838, F. P. 3rd April 1839, No. 48.
  5. A letter from Macnaghten to Alves dated 22nd Oct. 1839. F. P. 23rd Jan. 1839, No. 29.
  6. A letter from Alves to Macnaghten dated 15th Nov. 1838, F. P. 23rd Jan. 1839, No. 33.
  7. A letter from Sutherland to Man Singh dated 26th April 1839, J.B.R.S. Vol. xxxiii (1947) Pt. I & II;  
A letter from Waddock to Sutherland dated 23rd May 1839, F. P. 7th Aug. 1839, No. 30, Prdg. p. 626.

adopted a clever strategy by creating rift between Appaji and Man Singh. He personally suggested to Appa Sahib in April<sup>1</sup> and later on through his embassy<sup>2</sup> in May, that Appaji should give to him in writing that he was in great trouble at Jodhpur and that he should be freed from Jodhpur environment and be taken under British protection. But the conscience of Appa Sahib did not allow him and he preferred to live and die as a beggar rather than enter on any condition which might appear a relinquishment of what he considered his right to throne.<sup>3</sup>

Man Singh, on his part agreed to hand over Appa Sahib to the British Government in December, 1839, on condition that he would be given a territorial provision in the Nagpur state.<sup>4</sup> It was not possible for Col. Sutherland to agree to such a condition during his second visit to Jodhpur towards the closing months of 1839, because the Governor General had directed him that any reference to his subsistence would only be considered after Appa Sahib's removal from Jodhpur was finalised.<sup>5</sup>

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1. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 3rd May 1839, containing copies of the letters from Appa Sahib to Sutherland and vice-versa F. P. 19th June 1839, No. 25.
  2. Dr. Russel was sent to attend the ailing Appa Sahib in May 1839 (A letter from Sutherland to Waddock, dated 28th May 1839. F. P. 21st Aug. 1839. No. 66 Prdg. pp. 82-84);  
A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 6th June 1839 F. P. 21st Aug. 1839, No. 68. prdg. pp. 87-88.
  3. A letter from Sutherland to Torrens dated 18th July 1840 F. P. 3rd Aug. 1840, No. 123.
  4. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 26th Dec. 1839. F. P. 12th Feb. 1840. No. 47.
  5. A letter from Waddock to Sutherland dated 10th June 1839. F. P. 21st Aug. 1839. No. 67 Prdg. pp. 85-86;  
A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 26th Dec. 1839. F. P. 12th Feb. 1840, No 42.

adopted a clever strategy by creating rift between Appaji and Man Singh. He personally suggested to Appa Sahib in April<sup>1</sup> and later on through his embassy<sup>2</sup> in May, that Appaji should give to him in writing that he was in great trouble at Jodhpur and that he should be freed from Jodhpur environment and be taken under British protection. But the conscience of Appa Sahib did not allow him and he preferred to live and die as a beggar rather than enter on any condition which might appear a relinquishment of what he considered his right to throne.<sup>3</sup>

Man Singh, on his part agreed to hand over Appa Sahib to the British Government in December, 1839, on condition that he would be given a territorial provision in the Nagpur state.<sup>4</sup> It was not possible for Col. Sutherland to agree to such a condition during his second visit to Jodhpur towards the closing months of 1839, because the Governor General had directed him that any reference to his subsistence would only be considered after Appa Sahib's removal from Jodhpur was finalised.<sup>5</sup>

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1. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 3rd May 1839, containing copies of the letters from Appa Sahib to Sutherland and vice-versa F. P. 19th June 1839, No. 25.
  2. Dr. Russel was sent to attend the ailing Appa Sahib in May 1839 (A letter from Sutherland to Waddock, dated 28th May 1839. F. P. 21st Aug. 1839, No. 66 Prdg. pp. 82-84);  
A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 6th June 1839 F. P. 21st Aug. 1839, No. 68. prdg. pp. 87-88.
  3. A letter from Sutherland to Torrens dated 18th July 1840 F. P. 3rd Aug. 1840, No. 123.
  4. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 26th Dec. 1839. F. P. 12th Feb. 1840. No. 47.
  5. A letter from Waddock to Sutherland dated 10th June 1839. F. P. 21st Aug. 1839, No. 67 Prdg. pp. 85-86;  
A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 26th Dec. 1839. F. P. 12th Feb. 1840, No 42.

restoration of the village Akolee to Baija Bai.<sup>1</sup> In September, 1842, the village was retransferred and it was to have its effects throughout the period of the life of Baija Bai.<sup>2</sup>

### (E) End of Maratha influence and rise of British influence in Marwar:

By the Anglo-Rathor treaty of January, 1818.<sup>3</sup> the influence of Sindia and the Marathas came to an end in Marwar. The British, soon after, began to interfere in the affairs of Man Singh. Sir David Ochterlony visited Jodhpur during the closing months of 1818.<sup>4</sup> His efforts<sup>5</sup> made Man Singh maintain good relations with his opposite group and appoint Akhay Raj as his *Dewan* and *Thakur* Salim Singh as the *Pradhan*.<sup>6</sup> However, at heart he remained unreconciled with these ministers.<sup>7</sup> In December 1818, Wilder was appointed as Political Agent at Jodhpur.<sup>8</sup> He was instructed that 'the Raja should be reasoned out to take the advice of the European Officers' and 'take such measures as are suited' to the suppression

1. Ibid-dated 7th Sept, 1842. R. A. O. File No. 27-Jod. 1842, p. 32.

2. Ibid-dated 12th Sept, 1842, R. A. O. File No. 27-Jod, 1842, p. 35.

3. Aitchison T. E. S. Vol. iii pp. 128-129.

4. A letter from Ochterlony to J. Adams dated 15th Nov, 1818 F. P. 26th Dec. 1818, No. 55.

5. A letter from Ochterlony to Wilder dated 4th Dec. 1818: F. P. 26th Dec. 1818, No. 52.

6. Letters from Ochterlony to J. Adams dated 15th Nov. 1818. F. P. 26th Dec. 1818, No. 55 and dated 7th Jan. 1819. F. P. 30th Jan. 1819, No. 58; Wilson : Vol. ix pp. 306-307; Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 89-90.

7. A letter from Ochterlony to J. Adams dated 15th Nov. 1818. F. P. 26th Dec 1818, No. 55.

8. A letter from Ochterlony to J. Adams dated 4th Dec. 1818. F. P. 26th Dec 1818, No. 51.

of the plundering system which has been practised by his people not only against travellers and merchants trading to Ajmer but to other states also.<sup>1</sup> However, Wilder remained only for a short time and left Marwar in February 1818, when Col. Tod was given the political duties of Marwar, added to those of Udaipur, Kota, Bundi and Sirohi.<sup>2</sup> He came to Jodhpur and met Man Singh on November 4, 1819.<sup>3</sup>

Within six months of his visit Man Singh began to exercise his strong power.<sup>4</sup> In the middle of 1820, he dismissed Akhay Chand and arrested him on the charge of misappropriation of state money.<sup>5</sup> Later on, he, along with five other members of his administration, Kiledar Nath Karan, Vyas Vinodi Ram, Munshi Jeet Mal and Joshi Fateh Chand and two other chiefs, was put to death.<sup>6</sup> Thakur Salim Singh fled first to Nimaj and then to Jaisalmer.<sup>7</sup> He chastised the rebellious chiefs and confiscated their land.<sup>8</sup> Thakur of Nimaj had to

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1. A letter from Ochterlony to Wilder dated 4th Dec. 1818. F. P., 26th Dec. 1818, No. 52.
  2. Tod : Vol. ii pp. 1094 ff, 1.
  3. Ibid pp. 822, 1095.
  4. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 90-95;  
Tod. Vol. ii p. 832.
  5. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 90-91;  
Tod. ii p. 1097;  
Wilson : Vol. viii p. 307.
  6. A letter from Wilder to Ochterlony dated 22nd Feb, 1821;  
F. P., 21st March 1821, No. 14;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 92-93.  
Tod : Vol. ii pp. 1097-1099;  
Wilson : Vol. viii p. 307.
  7. Wilson : Vol. viii p. 307.
  8. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 97-98;  
Tod. ii pp. 1100-1101;  
Wilson : Vol. viii p. 307.

pay ransom for giving shelter to Salim Singh. His land was confiscated.<sup>1</sup> A new government under Fateh Raj was constituted,<sup>2</sup> which executed his policy of redeeming all additional grants bestowed upon the chiefs since the time of Raja Bijay-Singh.<sup>3</sup>

A great discontent prevailed among the *Thakurs*. They appealed to Col. Tod on July 31, 1821, to intervene and mediate for the settlement of their troubles.<sup>4</sup> The British intervened and Man Singh was made to consent in February, 1824, to restore the estates of the *Thakurs* of Awa, Assore, Nimaj and Ras.<sup>5</sup> The British secured twenty-one villages of Merwara territory of Marwar on a lease of eight years.<sup>6</sup> A British force was also kept there at the expense of the state treasury of Marwar.<sup>7</sup> By this, the disgruntled block against Man Singh was pacified, territory of Marwar was crippled and close watch on Jadhpur was kept by the stationing of a military force at Merwara.

1. Ibid.
2. A letter from Wilder to Ochterlony dated 22nd Feb. 1821.  
F. P. 21st March 1821, No. 14;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 97-98.
3. A letter from Wilder to Ochterlony dated 22nd Feb. 1821 F. P. 21st March 1821, No. 14.
4. A letter from chiefs of Marwar to Col. Tod dated 2nd day of the bright-half of Sravana vs. 1878/31st July 1821, (Quoted in Tod Vol. I pp. 228-230).
5. W. J. Brigg's report F. P. 26th April 1841 No. 77.  
Prdg 19-26 April 1841, S. No. 894A. pp. 334-336;  
Aitchison : T. E. S. Vol. iii pp. 130-131.
6. An agreement signed by Vyas Surat Ram dated 2nd day of the bright-half Phalguna vs 1880/5th March 1824.  
Pf. I. File No. 7, L.N. 7 Id.;  
Aitchison : Vol. iii pp. 132-133.
7. Ibid.

The reconciliation of Man Singh with his chiefs was neither sincere nor permanent and on various pretexts he persisted in retaining the sequestrated lands or instituted fresh resumption of land, compelling them to emigrate from Marwar and seek refuge at Jaipur and Bikaner.<sup>1</sup> Once again *Thakurs* of Awa, Nimaj and Ras were forced to leave their fiefs.<sup>2</sup> The *Thakurs* decided to remove Man Singh from the throne and place Dhonkal Singh on the throne of Marwar.<sup>3</sup> With the help of the Jaipur ruler they took the stand against their Lord, collecting a force of 10,000 soldiers in July, 1828.<sup>4</sup> Man Singh, on his part, contacted Ranjit Singh, the ruler of Punjab, to help him against the opposition of his feudal chiefs.<sup>5</sup> Man Singh and his counsellor Ladoo Nath regarded these disturbances as the creation of the British.<sup>6</sup> The foreign element brought into the affairs alarmed the British government. Though the British Resident was confident that Ranjit Singh would not accede to the call of Man Singh,<sup>7</sup> he could not ignore the rebellion of

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1. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv p. 103;  
Wilson: Vol. ix p. 308.

2. Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 103-104.

3. Brigg Report F. P. 26th April 1841 No; 77. Prdg. of 19-26 April 1841 S. No. 894 A p. 337;  
Wilson: Vol. ix p. 309;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 103-104.

4. A letter from Trevelyn to Colebrooke dated 9th Aug. 1828, F. P. 5th Sept. 1828, No 20;  
Wilson: Nos. ix, p. 309.

5. A letter from Colebrooke to Swinton dated August, 1828, F. P. 5th Sept. 1828, No. 20.

6. A letter from Trevelyn to Colebrooke dated 9th Aug. 1828, F. P. 5th Sept. 1828, No. 20.

7. A letter from Colebrooke to Swinton dated August, 1828 F. P. 5th Sept. 1828, No. 20.



## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS.

the chiefs, who depended on Dhonkal Singh<sup>1</sup> The British intervened and demanded that Man Singh should submit his differences with his *Thakurs* to the British government and undertake to abide unhesitatingly by its decision.<sup>2</sup> Man Singh's preparation to crush the rebellion was of no avail. When he found himself helpless, he agreed to restore the confiscated land, possessions and privileges of the refractory chiefs.<sup>3</sup>

Hereafter, Man Singh adopted such an attitude as was not favourably looked upon by the British authority. His giving asylum to Appa Sahib Bhonsle, as we have seen,<sup>4</sup> was highly objected to by the British. A large share of the revenue and the entire administration of Marwar was entrusted to the Naths against the wishes of the British.<sup>5</sup> Man Singh continued to keep his friendly relations with Ranjit Singh. It was disliked by the British.<sup>6</sup> He encouraged the ravages on the frontiers of Sirohi and Ajmer without caring for expostulations addressed to him.<sup>7</sup> He did not wait upon the Governor General, Lord William Bentinck, when he called a conference of Rajput rulers

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1. Wilson : Vol. ix p. 309.

2. Ibid. p. 310.

3. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv p. 104;

Wilson. Vol. ix p. 311.

4. See Section B of this chapter.

5. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv p. 105;

Wilson : Vol. ix p. 312.

Out of the state revenue of 37 lacs of rupees, 7 lacs were alienated in favour of Naths, ten lacs formed the jagirs of the Thakurs, leaving twenty for the Raja

6. A letter from Martin to the Secretary to G. G. dated 24th Dec. 1831. F.P. 30 Jan. 1832, No. 40;

A letter from Lokhart to the Secretary to G. G. dated 28th Sept. 1832. F. P. 26th Nov. 1832, No. 14.

7. Wilson : Vol. ix p. 312.

## END OF MARATHA INFLUCENCE

at Ajmer in 1832<sup>1</sup> The British doubted the motives of Man-Singh; when the leaders of the Khosa tribe were employed<sup>2</sup> by him in order to extend his influence in Thar Parkar. Moreover he withheld his contingent quota of the supply of 1500 cavalry to the British against these tribes in September, 1832.<sup>3</sup> Later on under threats he sent a force led by Lodha Ridmal and Muhnot Ram Dās but on critical occasions, it sided with the enemy.<sup>4</sup> This was regarded as contrary to the treaty obligations. The tribute fell in arrears and urgent demand for the payment made by the Political Agent at Ajmer did not improve matters.<sup>5</sup> The British regarded it the responsibility of Man Singh to arrest the marauding hands revaging Kishangarh territory, but the Maharaja showed his inability to prevent.<sup>6</sup> The Maharaja also gave shelter to the murderers of Dr. Mottley, a medical officer of Ajmer.<sup>7</sup> He refused to abolish the *Thugi* in his state.<sup>8</sup> Many

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1. A letter from Man Singh to Swinton, received on 6th April 1832. F. P. 7th May 1832, No. 32;  
Hakikat Bahi No. 11 p. 318 and 323. Jd.;  
Marwar Khyat Vol. iv pp. 108-109.
  2. A letter from Lockhart to Macnaghten dated 28th Sept. 1832. F. P. 26th Nov. 1832, No. 14.
  3. A letter from Lockhart to Man Singh dated 15th Sept. 1832. F. S. 22nd Oct. 1832, No. 10.
  4. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv p. 111.  
Wilson : Vol. ix p. 312.
  5. A letter from Lockhart to Man Singh dated 15th Sept. 1832 F. S. 22nd Oct. 1832, No. 10;  
Wilson : Vol. ix p. 312.
  6. A letter from Waddock to Alves dated 22nd Aug. 1834. F. P. 22nd Aug. 1834, No. 18 (Oct.);  
Wilson : Vol. ix p. 312.
  7. Wilson Vol. ix p. 313.
  8. A letter from Waddock to Alves dated 22nd Aug. 1834. F. P. 22nd Aug. 1834, No. 18 (Oct.);  
A letter from Alves to Macnaghten dated 11th Sept. 1834. R. A. O. File No. 5. Jodhpur ii. 1834. Para II.

of the letters from the British Political Agent remained unreplyed by him.<sup>1</sup>

Despite the payment of the tribute in May, 1833,<sup>2</sup> his other activities, referred to above, were not liked by the British. To set things right the Political Agent required that Man Singh should send somebody at Ajmer to discuss and adjust the issues. Man Shingh evaded it for some days.<sup>3</sup> Later on, a party, consisting of Anop Ram Vyas, *Thakurs* of Rian and Balunda, met Alves, the Political Agent on Aug. 5.<sup>4</sup> Soon it was found by the Agent that the party sent was powerless.<sup>5</sup> He demanded of Man Singh to depute such persons as could discuss and adjust the problems of weighty nature,<sup>6</sup> and warned him that if nothing substantial came out from him, the British government would be constrained to depose him and place Dhonkal Singh on the Gaddi of Jodhpur instead.<sup>7</sup> At the same time military preparations were made at Ajmer to meet any eventuality arising from the side of Man Singh.<sup>8</sup> On it another party under

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1. Briggs Report F. P, dated 26th April 1841, Prdg. 19-26 April 1841. S. No. 894 A. p 345.  
Marwar Khyat Vol: iv pp. 111-112.
  2. A letter from Man Singh to G. G. received on 26th May 1833.. F P. 6th June 1833, No. 14
  3. A letter from Alves to Macnaghten dated 18th Aug. 1834. F. P. 13th Sept. 1834, No. 10.
  4. Ibid.
  5. Ibid.
  6. Ibid.
  7. Ibid.
  8. A letter from Waddock to Alves dated 22nd Aug. 1834 F. P. 22nd Aug. 1834, No. 18. (Oct.)
  9. Wilson : Vol. ix pp. 314-315.

Thakur Ranjit Singh of Khinwsar was sent<sup>1</sup> and it arrived at Ajmer on September 29.<sup>2</sup> This time the party was able to come to an adjustment with the Agent in October, 1834.<sup>3</sup>

According to the terms,<sup>4</sup> accepted by the Jodhpur party, the Maharaja agreed to pay compensation for the inroads caused on the frontiers of Kishangarh, Sirohi and Jaisalmer. He also agreed to compensate the robbery and murder of Dr. Mottley and subdue the Thugs. It was also decided that he would pay rupees 10 to 12 lacs claimed by Sirohi for depredations and if any counter-claims against Sirohi were coming, they would be adjusted in favour of the Jodhpur government. The party also agreed that the Maharaja would submit an apology for past misbehaviour, assure to promote future good relations with the British, pay rupees five lacs towards the cost of the military preparations, which the British had to make at Ajmer, within four months and furnish troops, hereafter, of an efficient mettle.

In order to keep vigilant guard over Man Singh, the British government took further steps. A military cantonment was established at Barmer.<sup>5</sup> A share of the salt lake and district of Sambhar was taken over as security for the payments of the pecuniary demands upon the Maharaja.<sup>6</sup> Merwara was further

1. A letter from Alves to Secretary to G. G. dated 7th Oct. 1834. R. A. O. File No. 5, Jodhpur II. 1834 Para 5.
2. Ibid.
3. Ibid-dated 10th Oct. 1834. R. A. O. File No. 5. Jodhpur II 1834 p. 155.
4. A letter from Alves to Secretary to G. G. dated 9th October 1834. R.A.O. File No. 5. Jodhpur II. 1834 pp. 143-145;  
Wilson; Vol. ix p. 314.
5. A letter from Man Singh to Alves received on 27th Oct. 1834 F. P. 22nd Dec. 1834, No. 40.
6. A letter from William Bentinck to Man Singh dated 2nd Dec. 1834. R. A. O. File No. 5. Jodhpur II. 1834 pp. 199-202, (See Appendix D);  
Wilson. Vol. ix p. 314.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

leased in October, 1835, for a period of nine years with additional seven villages.<sup>1</sup> In December the Jodhpur government was asked to make the annual payment of rupees 1,15,000 towards the Marwar Legion, which was then raised and stationed at Erinpura.<sup>2</sup>

The Middle East problem, which brought the clash of the vested interests of Britain and Russia in Afghanistan, posed a serious problem in 1835, for Melbourne Ministry. It was not in favour of pursuing a vigorous foreign policy. But the Governor General of India, Lord William Bentinck thought otherwise. He desired that the frontiers of British Empire should extend upto the Sind and the Western mountainous region of the Kirthar the Suleiman and the Hindukush. It involved an open war not only with Afghanistan but with Russia also. The ministry recalled William Bentinck in September, 1835. The charge was handed over to Sir Charles Metcalfe, the senior most member of the Council, who acted as Governor General until the arrival of Lord Auckland in March 1836. The new Governor General preferred to carry out the frontier policy on the lines of William Bentinck.<sup>3</sup>

Auckland realised that Marwar, which had been a tributary state since February 1818, could conveniently be used as a base for military action against the Sind and beyond. Hence, without losing time, he executed his plan to reach the 'scientific frontier'. The western tract of Marwar, Malani, was taken under

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1. Aitchison : T. E. S. Vol. iii pp. 132-133.

2. Ibid. p. 135.

Erinpura is 25°9'N 73°4'E, about six miles from Erinpura Road Station on the Ajmer-Ahmadabad branch of Western Railway.

3. B. D. Basu : The Rise of Christian power in India Vol. V p. 39, 45; C. H. I Vol. V pp. 489-490.

the British control.<sup>1</sup> The salt manufacturing areas of Nawa, Gudha, Didwana and Marot were put under direct British administration<sup>2</sup> with a view to meeting the financial liability of maintaining forces in Malani. It was also proposed to put Jodhpur, Jaipur and Bikaner states under the direct control of one British superintendent.<sup>3</sup> It was recommended by Major Alves to Macnaghten, Secretary to Governor General, to forcibly remove Ladoo Nath and Bhim Nath, who had great influence over Man Singh.<sup>4</sup>

Man Singh protested against the occupation of Malani and other areas by the British and he pointed out that it would bring a great loss to the state revenues. He also objected their occupations on the ground that it meant interference in the internal affairs of the state.<sup>5</sup> Man Singh sent his own men under Dhum Das to contact the disgruntled elements against the British in the different parts of India in order to overthrow the British rule. The partisans were Mubaraz-ud-Daula, the brother of the Nizam, Raja of Satara, Gaikwar of Baroda, ruler of Nepal, Nawab of Banda, Afghan prince (probably Dost Muhammad), Prince of Sagaur, Nawab of Bhopal, Ranjit Singh and Appaji Bhonsle. The Russian, Persian and French politicians

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1. A letter from Secretary to G.G. to A. Bush dated 26th Sept. 1836. F.P. 26th Sept. 1836 No. 30;  
B. D. Basu : Rise of Christian power in India Vol. V p. 45.
  2. Letters from Alves to Macnaghten dated 28th Jan. and 31st March 1838. R. A. O. File No. 14 A. Jodhpur II 1838, pp. 42 and 100.
  3. A letter from Macnaghten to Alves dated 10th Jan. 1838. R. A. O. File No. 14 A. Jodhpur II 1838, pp. 7-8.
  4. A letter from Alves to Macnaghten dated 29th Jan. 1838. F. P. 21st March 1838, No. 112.
  5. A letter from Man Singh to Alves received on Oct 27, 1836. F. P. Dec. 2, 1836, No. 40.

were also contacted through Ranjit Singh. It was so planned that as soon as the Russian and Persian armies arrived at the river Indus, Ranjit Singh would be joined by Man Singh and Nawab of Banda. Then all the Princes would attack simultaneously upon the British. With the help of the French regular forces, they would capture the British forts. However, the plan leaked out with the arrest of Dhum Das in November 1838.<sup>1</sup>

In the meantime, under the pretext of effecting permanent reforms at Jodhpur, the Governor General asked Alves to march on to Jodhpur, force the Maharaja's abdication and place on the throne of Jodhpur either Dhonkal Singh or a son of Man Singh said to have been born.<sup>2</sup> Alves, being ill, could not proceed. He was succeeded by Col. Sutherland on March 15, 1839.<sup>3</sup> Having taken over charge, the new Political Agent proceeded to Jodhpur on March 23,<sup>4</sup> with the intention of negotiating with the Maharaja regarding British claims.<sup>5</sup> He also wanted to press Man Singh to assist the British against Dost Muhammad.

1. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 10th June 1839. F. P. 24th July 1839, No. 38;

The report of the commission set in 1839-1840 for enquiring the role of Mubariz-ud-Daula engaged in a conspiracy against the British (Quoted in Freedom struggle in Hyderabad Vol. I (1800-1857) pp. 134-135.

2. A letter from Macnaghten to Alves dated 1st Nov. 1838.

F. P. 26th Dec. 1838, No. 20;

Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv/pp. 116-118.;

A son was born on May 1, 1838 but died on April 20, 1839.

3. A report from Sutherland to Secretary to G. G. dated 7th Aug. 1847. F.P. 7th Aug. 1847, No. 845 p. 12.

4. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 10th June 1839 F. P. 24th July 1839. No. 38.

5. A report from Sutherland to the Secretary to G. G. dated 7th Aug. 1847. F. P. 7th Aug. 1847, No. 845 p. 12. The claim was for rupees 10,10 186 and annas 2 only (Declaration on the part of G. G. to the chiefs and people of Marwar by Sutherland dated 17th Aug. 1839 F. S. 6th Nov. 1839, No. 43).

in favour of Shah Shuja.<sup>1</sup> It was thought that it would enable them to keep Man Singh under their strict vigilance. He reached Jodhpur on April 3 and began negotiations from April 4, when a note was submitted<sup>2</sup> regarding the payment of five years' arrears of the tribute and three years' arrears of the *sawar kharch*, reinstatement of the principal *Thakurs* of the state, and removal from the state council of those, who had set at defiance the supremacy of the British government.<sup>3</sup> The negotiations continued for eight days but Man Singh did not commit anything.<sup>4</sup> In the course of the talks, Sutherland received information from Willoghby about the confederacy of the native states and chiefs of India against the British government at the head of which Maharaja Man Singh was believed to have placed himself<sup>5</sup> His apprehension of Man Singh's duplicity was confirmed when he saw that the embassy from Nepal was cordially received by the Maharaja.<sup>6</sup> On this, he dropped all communications with Man Singh on April 25.<sup>7</sup> He made a plan to place Dhonkal Singh on the throne but the situation was not favourable due to the opposition of the Naths.<sup>8</sup> He left Jodhpur on June 8, but informed the Maharaja through a letter, dated June 14, 1839, that he had dismissed his *Vakil*, who had been

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1. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 10th June 1839. F. P. 24th July 1839, No. 38.
  2. Ibid.
  3. A letter from Sutherland to Man Singh dated 14th June 1839. F. P. 24th July 1839, No. 36.
  4. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 10th June 1839. F. P. 24th July 1839, No. 38.
  5. Ibid.
  6. Ibid.
  7. Ibid.
  8. Ibid.



## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

accredited to him, and that he failed in the fulfilment of his engagement to his government, as such had violated the condition of the treaty. He further informed him that his territories had been placed beyond the pale of the British protection.<sup>1</sup>

On receiving the orders from the Governor General,<sup>2</sup> a war was declared by Sutherland on Jodhpur on August, 17.<sup>3</sup> He proceeded towards Jodhpur with a thousand cavalry, 3,000 infantry and 12 field artillery under Brigadier Rich on August 28.<sup>4</sup> The dissatisfied chiefs of Marwar also joined him on the way with 1,500 force.<sup>5</sup> The Maharaja also prepared to resist the onslaught and encamped outside the city for this purpose.<sup>6</sup> But finding the British superior in strength he expressed his desire to negotiate with them.<sup>7</sup> Sutherland paid no heed to it and occupied the fort of Jodhpur on September 19, and placed it under a British garrison.<sup>8</sup>

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1. A letter from Sutherland to Man Singh dated 14th June 1839. F. P. 24th July 1839, No 36.
  2. A letter from Torrens to Sutherland dated 9th Aug. 1839. F. S. 9th Oct. 1839, No. 32.
  3. A declaration on the part of G. G. to the chiefs and people of Marwar by Sutherland, dated 17th Aug. 1839. F. S. 6th Nov. 1839, No. 43.
  4. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 20th Oct. 1839. F. P. 24th Feb. 1840, No. 34;  
A report from Sutherland to the Secretary to G. G. dated 7th Aug. 1847 F. P. 7th Aug. 1847, No. 845. pp. 19-20.
  5. Ibid;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. iv pp. 116-117.
  6. Ibid.
  7. Ibid.
  8. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated 20th Sept. 1839. F. P. 8th Jan. 1840, No. 96.

When Man Singh was deprived of the entire strength, Sutherland dictated his own terms.<sup>1</sup> According to which Man Singh agreed to remove Naths from his government, reconstitute the new council of the state accommodating the dissatisfied chiefs and to act according to the advice of the Political Agent of Jodhpur.<sup>2</sup> Having appointed Ludlow as the political Agent at Jodhpur<sup>3</sup> with a garrison at his disposal, Sutherland departed from there on December 4, 1839.<sup>4</sup> When he again returned to Jodhpur on February 25, 1840,<sup>5</sup> he found some reform in the conduct of Man Singh.<sup>6</sup> He, therefore, restored the fort of Jodhpur to Man Singh on February 28, 1840.<sup>7</sup>

However, the Maharaja did not like the idea of banishing the Naths from Marwar. He maintained secret communications with them and acted in a manner that their influence might again revive in Jodhpur.<sup>8</sup> It was regularly objected to by the Political Agent.<sup>9</sup> Subsequently, Ludlow got two chief Naths arrested by the British forces and sent them to Ajmer.<sup>10</sup> When

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1. Ibid-dated 20th Oct. 1839. F, P, 24th Feb. 1840 No. 34;  
A report from Sutherland to the Secretary to G. G. dated 7th Aug. 1847.  
F. P. 7th Aug. 1847, No. 845 p. 29, 32.
  2. Ibid.  
Aitchison : T. E. S. Vol, iii pp. 135-137.
  3. A letter from Sutherland to Davidson dated 18th Feb. 1840. F.P. 23rd March 1840, No. 55.
  4. A letter from Sutherland to Hamilton dated 2nd March 1840 F. P. 23rd March 1840, No. 57.
  5. Ibid.
  6. Ibid.
  7. Ibid.
  8. Letters from Ludlow to Man Singh dated 30th March 1841. 16th and 20th April 1841. Kharita Bahi No. 13 pp. 427-430, Jd.
  9. Ibid.
  10. A letter from Ludlow the Sutherland dated 3rd May 1843. R. A. O. File No. 14 A Jodhpur IX, 1843, pp. 85-110,

Man Singh was asked to go to Delhi and see the Governor General at the end of 1842 to discuss the problem of the Naths, he refused to go on the pretext of his ill health.<sup>1</sup> At the same time, he looked with favour at the case of the resumption of Sindia's *jagir* of Akolee.<sup>2</sup> In the beginning of 1843 he showed his intention to resume the conduct of the public affairs in a way to get the Naths released.<sup>3</sup> When he could not be brought round, the British authorities proposed in June 1843 to dethrone him and place the next in succession on his *Gaddi*.<sup>4</sup> But nothing could be done immediately to that effect and before long, Man Singh died on September 5, 1843.<sup>5</sup>

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1. A report from Sutherland to the Secretary to G. G. dated 7th Aug. 1847. F. P. 7th Aug. 1847, No. 845 pp. 41 and 43.
  2. See pages 193-194.
  3. A letter from Ludlow to Sutherland 14th May 1843 R. A. O. File No. 14 A, Jodhpur IX 1843 pp. 136-144.
  4. A letter from Secretary to G. G. to Sutherland dated 23rd June 1843. R. A. O. File No. 14 A, Jodhpur IX 1843, p. 1843, p. 198.
  5. A report from Sutherland to the Secretary to G. G. dated 7th Aug. 1847. F. P. 7th Aug. 1847, No. 845 p. 44.

## CHAPTER VII

# A General Review of the Period

No ruling family in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century ever put up so consistent and stubborn a resistance against the establishment of Maratha and British rule in Northern India as did the Rathors of Marwar. The story of Marwar's resistance against the Marathas and later on against the British is a splendid record of martial and glorious deeds as well as of the noble actions of the rulers and the people alike. The admiration one feels for their heroic character enhances, as one reflects, that the tiny state had no adequate resources and had to fight against heavy odds. The causes of the strength that Marwar showed in defending herself, therefore, deserve to be examined.

The most potent fact that kept them engaged for a century in a war against the Marathas and the British was the force of tradition of resistance. Belief in the purity of their descent and in the mission they were called upon to fulfil as inherited from Sihaji and Jodhaji to fight the enemies, gave the rulers and the people a sense of self-respect and confidence, which animated them in many a dark hour of their resistance. Even when they accepted the overlordship of the Mughals, they did not deviate from the traditional spirit to fight against the evil-doers; that is why the Mughals dared not to challenge their dynastic hold in Marwar. When they did, after the death of Jasvant Singh, from 1678 to 1707, the people rose in arms, and their resistance not only succeeded in re-establishing their

traditional institution but it contributed to the fall of the Mughal empire.

The traditions and racial factors were intensified by the existence of a chain of notable forts all round Marwar like Merta, Nagor, Jodhpur, Didwana and Jalor.<sup>1</sup> The defiles in the Aravali region of east Marwar and desert land in the north-west helped the rulers in their purpose to fall back in times of adversity and continue the resistance against the invaders.<sup>2</sup> They bred in them a love for freedom, made the defensive operations comparatively easier and inspired confidence and strength in them.

Equally important was the existence of feudalism with patriotic nobles, always ready to lay down their lives for the glory of the ruling dynasty and the country. The institution though a negation of political authority elsewhere, was one of the most powerful institutions in Marwar. The social structure was like an institution which could supply warriors at the time of war at a minutes call.<sup>3</sup>

1. Holkar and Sindia in 1736 laid a siege of the fort of Merta (S.P.D. xiv 14); Jayappa Sindia could not take Nagor fort despite a long siege in 1754-1755. *The siege brought his murder* (S.P.D. xxi 67, 69; xxvii 106, 116); The fort of Jodhpur successfully resisted the invasion of Amir Khan and the Marathas in 1807. (P.R.C. xi 230); Jalor fort saved Man Singh from the hands of his cousin Bhim Singh. (Tod : Vol. ii pp. 1079-1080); Anurudh Singh, after his defeat at the hands of the Marathas in Oct, 1755, could secure a safe asylum by placing himself in the fort of Didwana (S.P.D. xxi 76, 77).
2. The rulers always kept their stronghold at Nagor for its' beyond is the desert where they could withdraw in case emergency arose. Bijay Singh during the siege of Nagor shifted to Bikaner side, a city in the desert. (S.P.D. (New series) Vol I 186)
3. Out of the 24 chief nobles mentioned by Tod, only two were foreigners. They all were of the same tribe. (Vol. ii p. 1120).

But these conditions could not hold good under all circumstances and at all times. The flower of Rajput chivalry, which bloomed in war about one hundred and sixty years continuously, since the death of Jaswant Singh in 1678, could not go on keeping its rosy glow for ever and betrayed signs of withering at the beginning of 19th century and even earlier. We cannot lose sight of the fact that the nobles of this period preferred their personal interest to the general interest of the state. The desertion of the Rathors under Ram Singh, the ex-Raja of Jodhpur to Jajappa Sindia<sup>1</sup> proved baneful to the state. The leading fief-holders of Jodhpur, Sawai Singh of Pokran and his associates, the Mertias and Champaots deserted their ruler Man Singh and brought the Marathas and Pindaris to attack Marwar.<sup>2</sup> Even the crown prince also sided with the enemies.<sup>3</sup> Hence, in order to maintain their independent dignity and counteract the actions of such nobles the Rathor rulers had to enlist mercenaries from neighbouring areas.<sup>4</sup>

From the later years of Bijay Singh, we notice a kind of general degeneration in the fighting class of Marwar. Tod has graphically described it, when he wrote<sup>5</sup> the result of the first grape-shots by De Boigne's brigade on the battle field of

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In the battle of Patan fought on June 20, 1790, the Rathor casualty was the heaviest, but the ruler could collect 36,000 soldiers within four months and come to Merta to resist the Marathas on September 10, 1790.

1. S.P.D. xxi 60;  
S.P.D. (New series) Vol. I, 177.
2. P.R.C. xi 210, 224, 225.
3. Hakikat Bahi No. 10 p. 84;  
A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated 2nd Dec. 1815.  
F.P. 13th Jan. 1816, No. 27.
4. Tod : Vol. ii p. 1067.
5. Ibid. pp. 879-880.

Dangawas on September 10, 1790. "All was confusion. The resistance was feeble. Civil commanders took to flight. The alarm reached the more distant quarters of the brother-in-arms, the chiefs of Awa and Asop. The latter was famed for the immense quantity of opium he consumed; and with difficulty could his companion awake him, with the appalling tidings, 'the camp has fled and we are left alone'." Such a condition could not offer the desired opposition to the wanton aggression of the Marathas, who freely ravaged their country and drained the resources of the state. When this gradual deterioration was marked in every walk of life, the rulers of Marwar were reduced to a tributary state of the Marathas. The incoming British authority also took advantage of the position to which they were posted.

## THE MARATHA IMPACT ON MARWAR

### (A) Political :

The Maratha expansion in the North began with the realisation of *chauth* and *sardesmukhi*. As such, Marwar became a *saranjami* of the Marathas in the year 1728, when Baji Rao bestowed it on Holkar.<sup>1</sup> Though from time to time (in 1736,<sup>2</sup> 1741,<sup>3</sup> and 1748<sup>4</sup>) Holkar visited Marwar to collect the tribute yet the Rathor territory really became a tributary of the Marathas only in 1756, when its ruler agreed to pay its regular tribute to Sindia.<sup>5</sup> It remained as such upto 1818.<sup>6</sup>

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1. S.P.D. (New series) Vol. I. 6.

2. S P.D. xiv 14.

3. Ibid. xxvii 2.

4. Dayal Das Khyat Vol. ii leafs. 71-72;  
Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 160.

5. S.P.D. xxi 82;  
Aiti. Patren 142;  
Dayal Das Khyat Vol. ii. leaf 82.

6. Aitchison : T. E. S. Vol iii pp. 128-129.

The Marathas had no other political relation with Marwar except that of the collection of the tribute regularly.<sup>1</sup>

In the early years of the contact of Marwar with the Marathas, Marwar was a *saranjami* and the Peshwa was represented by a *pandit* at the capital of the Rathors.<sup>2</sup> After Marwar became a tribute-paying state to the Marathas, the Peshwa sent his *Vakils* to represent him in the state.<sup>3</sup> The *Vakil* sent daily reports about Marwar affairs, received instructions from the Peshwa and communicated news regarding the movements of the Maratha leaders. He was responsible for collecting the tribute. He also maintained accounts and was helped by other officials in running his office. In short, he was a collector of the tribute and representative of the Marathas in the state.<sup>4</sup> Soon after, the treaty of 1756, the Maratha envoy appointed by the Peshwa was one *pandit* Sada Shiva, who was also asked to collect the tribute from Ram Singh's portion of the divided Marwar.<sup>5</sup> Krishnaji Jagan Nath was another important *Vakil* who remained in the court of Bijay Singh for a long time.<sup>6</sup> With the growing influence of Sindia the rulers of Marwar paid

1. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 7th day of the bright-half of *Asvina*, vs. 1843/Sept. 29. 1786.

Pf. vi LN. 65. Jd;

Hath Bahi No. ii p. 134. Jd.

2. A letter from Baji Rao to Jay Singh dated 7th day of the dark-half of *Ashadha* vs. 1788/June 15, 1731. (KS) JP.

3. JY 2;

Hath Bahi No. ii p. 134 Jd;

Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 408, vv. 665.

4. S.S.I.S. Vol. I. 11, 18, 19, 20, 160.

5. Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 408, vv. 665.

6. JY 1-26;

S.S.I.S. vol. ii. 122.



## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

the tribute to the Sindia. Mahadaji kept his own agents at Jodhpur. Pandit Rama Rao Sada Shiva represented Mahadaji from 1791 to 1793.<sup>1</sup> These *Vakils* also took keen interest in the internal affairs of Marwar. Both Rama Rao Sada Shiva and Krishnaji Jagan Nath helped Bhim Singh to gain the throne of Marwar, after the death of Bijay Singh in July, 1793.<sup>2</sup>

Next to the *Vakil*, the most important Maratha official was *Kamvisdar*. He was purely a revenue officer and looked after the Maratha interest in the region. He used to be present in the villages at the time of harvest and collected the Maratha share then and there, so as to avoid delay in the payment. Occasionally he collected his share also from the custom duties of the towns. He was also assigned the duty to supervise the work of *naib kamvisdars* and keep the *Vakil* informed about the activities of the Maharaja's officers. Besides him, *fadnavis*, *chitnis*, *arzinavis*, *majmudars*, *amaldars karkuns*, *muksdars* etc. sent by the Peshwa from time to time helped the *Vakil* in maintaining the accounts and collecting the tribute. However, the ultimate responsibility of all the affairs, concerning the Maratha interest in the state, rested on the *Vakil*.<sup>3</sup>

Besides the *Vakil*, the Peshwa appointed special envoys, who also acted as leaders of the Maratha forces. Bapuji Sindia and Amir Khan played vital roles as political agents of Daulat Rao Sindia and Yasvant Rao Holkar in the affairs of Marwar from 1811 to 1817. Amir Khan, as referred to above,<sup>4</sup> had his hand in the murder of Inder Raj Singhvi in 1815 and the

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1. A letter from Bhim Singh to Mahadaji dated 9th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs, 1849/July 17, 1793 AB iv p. 50. Jd.

2. Ibid.

3. JY. I-26;

S.S.I.S. Vol. I, 6, 17, 48, 151; Vol. ii. 41, 122.

Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 408. vv. 665.

4. See pages 165-166.

abdication of Man Singh two years later. The Maratha envoys on diplomatic mission were given great receptions on their arrival.<sup>1</sup> The state was responsible for the security of their person and looked after their comforts.<sup>2</sup> These envoys helped the rulers of Marwar, when asked for, to crush internal revolts and in return, they received handsome remuneration, besides the cost of the military expeditions. Mahadaji responded a call, communicated to him through his envoy at Jodhpur, from Bijay Singh to recognise his nominee, Sher Singh as *Yuvraj*, and help him to crush the revolt of his refractory son Zalim Singh.<sup>3</sup>

The rulers of Jodhpur also sent their representatives to the court of Sindia at Gwalior. These agents were properly looked after by Sindia. One Vyas Jas Karan remained at Gwalior, as Rathor envoy from 1813-1818. His comfortable stay was Sindia's concern. Though he was paid rupees four hundred monthly from Jodhpur treasury, yet Sindia had to meet his expenses, as the payment of his salary was not regular and at times it took years to pay the arrears.<sup>4</sup>

The rulers of Jodhpur also employed the Marathas in their states during the period under review. Gopal Trimbak Rao was employed by Abhay Singh, on recommendation from Holkar in Feb. 1747, on a yearly salary of rupees four hundred.<sup>5</sup> One Baje Rao, a specialist in the accounts, sent by Daulat Rao Sindia

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1. Hakikat Bahi no. v. p. 190. Jd.

2. Ibid, No. viii p. 450; No. ix. pp. 2-4, 37. Jd.

3. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 14th day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1848/Jan. 8, 1792. AB. iv, p. 48. Jd.

4. Letter dated 5th day of the dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1875/March 16, 1818. file concerning Khato-Kitab no. 30 (DK) Jd.

5. S.S.I.S. Vol. ii. 41.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS.

to Marwar,<sup>1</sup> proved very helpful. He was posted incharge of Jodhpur *Katcheri* in 1827.<sup>2</sup> Important *Rukkas*, *Peshkashi* records and other revenue records were under his custody.<sup>3</sup>

Sometimes deserters from the forces of the Marathas secured jobs in the Rathor army. The infantry of Hira Singh who was formerly in the service of Sirji Rao Ghatka, was employed by Man Singh in the year 1808.<sup>4</sup> Dan Singh, a former military officer in the pay of the Maratha governor of Ajmer, secured a job under Man Singh in 1817.<sup>5</sup>

Those Maratha leaders, who were the recipients of the confidence of the rulers received *jagirs* from the Maharajas from time to time. Certain villages like Gangva<sup>6</sup> in the Parbatsar district, Harsor<sup>7</sup> in Degana district, Paduvali and Akeli in Merta district,<sup>8</sup> and Mandal<sup>9</sup> in the east of Marwar were Maratha

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1. Khas-Rukka to Baje Rao dated 2nd day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1890/August 2, 1833 AB. v. p. 73. Jd.
  2. Letter dated 5th day of the bright-half of Karttika vs. 1884/Oct. 25, 1827, file concerning Jama-Kharch No. 44 (DK) Jd.
  3. Hath Bahi No. 4. p. 182, Jd.
  4. P.R.C. xi. 267;  
A letter from Man Singh to Daulat Rao dated 3rd day of the bright-half of the Bhadrapada vs. 1865/Aug. 24, 1808. AB. v. p. 10 .
  5. P.R.C. xiv 321;  
Hakikat Bahi No. x. p. 118.
  6. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 14th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1835/Aug. 21, 1778.  
AB. iv. p. 37. Jd.
  7. A letter from Daulat Rao Manaji Rao Bable to Bijay Singh dated 13th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1848/July 27, 1791. Pf. vi. LN. 60. Jd.
  8. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 1st day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1847/July 2, 1791. AB. iv. p. 46. Jd.;  
A letter from Spiers to Sutherland dated Jan. 14, 1842, R.A.O. File No. 27. Jod. 1842. p. 1.
  9. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 14th day of the dark-half of Vaisaka vs. 1848/April 20, 1792 AB. iv. p. 49. Jd.

jagirs. Some villages, like Makrana were given in *Inam*.<sup>1</sup> The villages of Bhasudi and Rugoli in Godwad were allotted to the family of Jaswant Rao Holkar to meet the expenses during its stay in Marwar.<sup>2</sup> The expenses for the maintenance of the *Chhatri* of Jayappa Sindia at Tausar, near Nagor, were met from the revenues of the village Kudoli.<sup>3</sup> The rulers under their seal issued proper *sanads* and copper plates for the grant of these villages.<sup>4</sup> If the officials of the state or the *Jagirdar* of the neighbouring territory interfered in these villages the state was responsible to safeguard the Maratha interest.<sup>5</sup> Whenever the state resumed any of their villages, an alternative arrangement was also made.<sup>6</sup>

This contact became closer when several Maratha families sought asylum at the Rathor court. The family of *Kavi Kalash*, which moved in 1706 to Marwar after the martyrdom of the poet, resided at Bilara. Durga Das asked the *Hakim* of Merta to meet its expenditure at the rate of rupee one and fifteen annas

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1. Ibid-dated 12th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1848/Sept. 9, 1791. AB. iv. p. 47. Jd.
  2. Hakikat Bahi No. ix p. 37. Jd.
  3. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 1st day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1847/July 2, 1791. AB. iv. p. 45. Jd.
  4. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1840/Sept. 1, 1783. Pf. vi. LN. 45. Jd.  
Ibid-dated 4th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1848/Aug. 17, 1791. Pf. vi. LN. 61. Jd.
  5. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 14th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1835/Aug. 21, 1778. AB. iv. p. 37;  
A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1840/Sept. 1, 1783. Pf. vi. LN. 45;  
A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 4th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1849/June 13, 1793. AB. iv. p. 50. Jd.
  6. A letter from Bhim Singh to Daulat Rao Sindia dated 13th day of the bright-half of Kartika vs. 1852/Nov. 24, 1795. AB. iv. p. 53. Jd.

per day.<sup>1</sup> Laxman Anant, popularly known as Lakhwa Dada, when revolted against Daulat Rao Sindia, sent his family to Jodhpur in 1800 A.D.<sup>2</sup> Jaswant Rao Holkar's family stayed in Marwar for four years—1805-1809.<sup>3</sup> Appaji Bhonsle passed the last twelve years of his life at Jodhpur and on his death in 1840 a state funeral was arranged.<sup>4</sup>

### (B) Economic impact:

The economic relations of the Marathas and the Rathors are evident from the treaty signed between Bijay Singh and Jankoji Sindia in February, 1756, by which the former agreed, in principle, to pay the tribute to the Marathas regularly.<sup>5</sup> The amount fixed was rupees 1,50,000 a year.<sup>6</sup> It included the payment of *Nazrana*.<sup>7</sup> After the annexation of Godwad, its tribute was fixed at rupees 30,000 per annum.<sup>8</sup> The tribute of Godwad was not shared between Holkar and the Peshwa, but it was paid only to Sindia.<sup>9</sup> The rulers did not pay the

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1. A letter from Durga Das to Dewan Bhagwan Das of Aiji's temple, Bilara dated 13th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1762/July 12, 1766. *Kashinagari Pracharni Patrika* Vol. I.
  2. P. R, C. ix. 14.
  3. *Hakikat Bahi* no. ix. pp. 2-4. Jd.
  4. A letter from Ludlow to Sutherland dated July 15, 1840. (Enclosed with the letter from Sutherland to Torrens dated July 18, 1840. F. P. Aug. 3. 1840. No. 123.)
  5. S.P.D. xxi. 82; *Aiti. Patren* 142.
  6. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1826/June 8, 1769. Pf. vi, LN. 9, Jd.
  7. *Ibid*-dated 1st day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1847/Jan. 5, 1791. Pf. vi, LN. 67. Jd.
  8. *Ibid*-dated 5th day of the dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1829/March 23, 1774, Pf. vi, LN, 20. 21.
  9. *Ibid*.

tribute regularly but paid it at intervals. It resulted in the non-payment of about 10% of the amount.<sup>1</sup> A remission of about 20% was generally made by Sindia to the Maharaja.<sup>2</sup>

The tribute was a regular tax on the rulers of Jodhpur by which the Marathas assured the safety of the rulers from their inroads.<sup>3</sup> It was not binding on their part to help them against their enemies. If such a situation arose, they (rulers) would contribute extra money. In 1748, Abhay Singh secured the help of Holkar against his brother, Bakht Singh by paying rupees 11,000 per day.<sup>4</sup> Ram Singh authorised his agent *Pandit* Jagan Nath to purchase the help of Holkar or Sindia in 1751 by offering two months' advance for a force of 10 to 12 thousand.<sup>5</sup> Even Bakht Singh secretly offered rupees two lacs to Holkar through Raj Singh Chohan, so that he might not help Ram Singh.<sup>6</sup> Man Singh paid rupees 2,00,000 when he asked for Holkar's help against Jagat Singh of Jaipur in 1807.<sup>7</sup>

The delay in the payment of the tribute was a general feature. The Maratha generals and agents visited Marwar time and again demanding the arrears, which were agreed to be paid in instalments. The amount paid to Mahadaji in the years vs.

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1. A letter from Metcalfe to J. Adams dated Jan. 15, 1818. F, S. Feb. 6, 1818, No. 102.
  2. Ibid.
  3. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 7th day of the bright-half of Asvina vs. 1843/29th Sept. 1786. Pf 6. LN. 55.
  4. Marwar Khyat ii p, 160.
  5. Hingane Daftar-Vol. I. 59.
  6. Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 366. vv. 413.
  7. A letter from A. Seton to N. B. Edmonstone dated Jan. 29, 1807. F, P. Feb. 12, 1807. No. 96.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

1835-1839/1778-1782 in regular instalments<sup>1</sup> was as follows: The amount fixed for the period of five years was rupees 9,00,000 at the rate of 1,80,000 a year. The remission given was 2,00,000. Out of the balance, rupees 6,00,000 was deposited in cash and 1,00,000 in kind. The first instalment of rupees 2 lacs was to be sent in the month of *Jyeshtha* vs 1840/May, 1784. However, when the actual payment was made, it was sent in two instalments. The first consisted of 80,000 *Bijay-Shahi* rupees and was sent on second day of the dark-half of *Sravana* vs. 1841 (July 4, 1784). Sindia gave a receipt of rupees, 1,00,000 in *Brindabani* currency through Kripa Ram. The Second instalment of rupees 1,00,000 *Bijayshahi* was sent on the eighth day of the dark-half of *Phalguna* vs. 1841 (February 2, 1785) to Mahadaji, out of which rupees 21,000 were remitted as exchange deduction. The amount was distributed among his officials. The money fixed by Bijay Singh for Mahadaji after the battle of Merta, was paid in the following instalments<sup>2</sup>

		Rupees	Annas
Cash	.. vs, 1847/1790 A.D. through	7,23,033	1.3
	Budh Singh		
Hundis to	vs. 1848/1791 A.D. through	3,10,079	12.0
be encashed	Khichi Sobha		
at Jaipur			
Juhar (offr)	vs. 1848/1791 A.D. through	1,30,000	0.0
in (both in	Vyas Deo		
cash and in	Kishan and		
Bharna)	Pandit Sitab		
	Rai		

1. Hath Bahi ii pp. 124-125. Exchange ratio of the currency of *Bijayshahi* : *Brindabani* was 1:1. 29. (Sadashiva to Mehta Akhay Chand dated 9th day of the bright-half of *Jyeshtha* vs. 1862/May 27, 1800. AB v p. 97.
2. File concerning Jama-Kharch No. 44 (DK) Jd.

The war indemnity was also paid in instalments. If it was paid regular a remission was made by the Marathas.<sup>1</sup>

Sometimes villages were given to the Marathas in *Ijaras*.<sup>2</sup> Bijay Singh gave the *Paragnas* of Merta, Didwana and Nawa on September 17, 1792 to the Marathas to adjust the payment of rupees 1,64,000 due to him.<sup>3</sup> There were different systems of payment. The ruler asked his *shahukars* to pay the amount to the Marathas on his behalf and the state amount was adjusted by paying the *shahukars* later on.<sup>4</sup> Sometimes the Marathas demanded advance payment of the tribute which was later on regularised in their account of the tribute.<sup>5</sup> The payment was also made through *Bharna* (miscellaneous articles) in which elephants, camels, horses, oxen, ornaments, valuable clothes and jewels were offered.<sup>6</sup> Sometimes various articles were purchased and sent to Sindia and Holkar and the cost was

1. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 1st day of the bright-half of Pausa vs. 1847/Jan. 5, 1791 Pf. vi LN. 57.

2. A letter from Singhvi Inder Raj to Najar Moti Ram dated 7th day of the dark-half of Phalguna vs. 1864/18th Feb. 1808 AB-5 p. 245.

3. File concerning Jama-Kharch No. 44 (DK) Jd.

4. Ibid.

5. In the year 1766 A. D. Mahadaji took his share from Marwar. The Peshwa agreed that the amount already paid to Mahadaji would not be paid. (A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 12th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1822/June 4, 1766 AB, No, iv p. 24 Jd.; S. P. D, xxix pp. 128.);

Gadhwa Fakirji secured rupees 25,000 (553 gold coins worth rupees ten thousand and hundies of rupees 15,000) to be encashed at Jaipur in 1791. The amount was adjusted in the final payment of the tribute to Mahadaji in 1792. (File concerning Jama-Kharch no. 44. (DK) Jd.)

6. On January 5, 1792, four elephants at the total cost of rupees ten thousand, 477 camels, each costing rupees 200 and 477 pairs of oxen at the rate of rupees 125 per pair were sent to Mahadaji. (File concerning Jama-Kharh No. 44 (DK) Jd.)



## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

credited towards their tribute.<sup>1</sup> The state authorities also paid the arrears of the Maratha forces and necessary deductions were made from the amount of the tribute.<sup>2</sup> Every general of the Marathas employed by Sindia would receive his share from the tribute and it was the responsibility of the ruler to pay it.<sup>3</sup>

It is certain that most of these agreements were respected only on paper. The actual payments, made in instalments were not very often a big sum. But whatsoever be the amount paid, it was an unbearable burden on the finances of the state. The rulers agreed to pay such a big amount, as was beyond their means, only to ward off the danger of the Maratha inroads for the time being. The agreement was never honoured. The result was that the Marathas encroached on the land of Marwar with full force, devastated the land and destroyed food and fodder.<sup>4</sup> The rulers, in order to meet the heavy burden of the demands, levied extra taxes on the people. Bijay Singh imposed *Rekh Bab* on his *Jagirdars*. *Peshkas* or *Hukamnama* tax was doubled. It caused discontentment among *Jagirdars* and the people. The Maratha inroads brought nothing but anarchy and disorder in the civil life of the state.<sup>5</sup>

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1. Dhan Singh took rupees four thousand in 1792 from the state to purchase valuables for Mahadaji. This amount was deducted from Mahadaji's tribute. (file concerning Jama-Kharch No. 44. DK. Jd.); Ambaji Ingle gave a receipt of a necklace of pearls sent by Bhim Singh through Vyas Akhay Ram. (A letter from Ambaji Ingle to Bhim Singh dated 7th day of the bright half of Karttika vs. 1836/Nov. 4. 1799. Pf. ii B. LN. 6. Jd.)
  2. In the year 1792 on the security of Pandit Rama Rao Sadashiva rupees twenty thousand were given to Dhan Singh for the payment of the army. (File concerning Jama Kharch No. 44. (DK). Jd.)
  3. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 3th day of the bright half of Jyeshtha vs. 1826, 3th June 1769 Pf. 6 LN. 8.
  4. *Ibid.*
  5. F.P. Sept. 26, 1836. No. 36.

The Marathas were not satisfied with the collection of tribute only. whenever they led military force against the state, they demanded extra levies. After the battle of Merta in 1790, Mahadaji demanded the expenses covering *Fauj Kharch*, *Darbra-Kharcha*, *Khasa-Sawari*, *Barad* and *Bolan*.<sup>1</sup> The total demand amounted to rupees 60,00,001.<sup>2</sup> Bapuji Sindia also realised the levies in the years 1812-1818. Besides these, Bapuji took *Bhent Holi*, *Bhent-Dusherah*, *Bhent Ganesh-Choth* on the occasion of these festivals.<sup>3</sup>

Sometimes an extra tax was collected from the people of the state named as 'Ghori-Barad' or 'Ghasadana'. The rate was four annas per *bigha* from peasants and from others rupee one per family. From *Jagirdars* it was fixed on the basis of their annual income.<sup>4</sup> Besides these, fines, presents, *Nazrana* (Succession presents) *Tika* (presents) were regularly paid to the Marathas by the Jodhpur authorities as their sources permitted. If their demands were not complied with, reminders were sent and delay would bring threats of military action and devastations.<sup>5</sup>

The Marathas did not care for the lawful collection of the money. They at times, took possession of the goods of the

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1. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 1st day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1847/Jan. 5, 1791. Pf. vi. LN. 57 Jd.

2. Ibid.

*Fauj-Kharch*— Money required for the maintenance of the army.

*Barad*— A tax levied on different callings.

*Darbar Kharch*— Tax levied on the maintenance of the court.

*Bolan*— It means Bolava, a guard tax.

3. A report from F. Wilder to David Ochterlony dated, September 27, 1818 R A., Ajm. Rec.

4. Vs. 1817. Basta no. 58. Bhandar. 1. Kota Rec.

*Ghorl*—Barad or Ghasdana was tax levied to keep away the Maratha light horse. The rate was four annas per *bigha*.

5. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 5th day of dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1829/23rd March, 1772 Pf. 6. LN. 18. Jd.

the same table. They exchanged their turbans and called themselves as *Dharambhai*.<sup>1</sup> Henceforth, the relation of the houses of Holkar and the Rathor were very amicable.

The inter-relations of both the families grew closer as time passed on. Whenever, a new ruler succeeded to the throne of Jodhpur, the Holkar house sent *tika* with valuable presents for the ruler. Ram Singh, who succeeded Abhay Singh in 1749, received an elephant and clothes as presents.<sup>2</sup> Malhar Rao's relation with Bijay Singh were also cordial.<sup>3</sup> Pandit Balwant Rao brought *tika*, on behalf of Holkar for Man Singh on January 10, 1804.<sup>4</sup> Thus, presentation of the *tika* to the house of the Rathors became a regular feature for the Holkar family. The meeting of Man Singh and Jasvant Rao Holkar in June-October 1806<sup>5</sup> further cemented the social relations between the two families.

The rulers of Marwar on their part, also sent *tika*, whenever a new successor sat on the throne at Indore. Bijay Singh sent *tika* for Tukoji Holkar, who succeeded Malhar Rao in 1769, with his agents Asopa Naval Rai and *Pandit* Jivan Ram.<sup>6</sup> He attended to the occasional demands of the Holkar family for the articles needed by its members. In 1764, Malhar Rao asked for a pair of oxen of fine breed. The demand was immediately

1. Marwar Khyat Vol. ii p. 159;  
Vansh Bhaskar Vol. iv pp. 353-3542.

2. Marwar Khyat, Vol. ii p. 164.

3. A letter from Bijay Singh to Jasvant Rao Bable dated 12th day of the dark-half of Magha vs. 1825/February 3, 1769. AB No. iv p. 81. Jd.

4. Hakikat Bahi no. viii p. 450. Jd.

5. Ibid. no. ix pp. 73-76.

6. A letter from Tukoji to Bijay Singh dated 10th day of the dark-half of Vaisaka vs. 1826/May 1, 1769. Pf. ii B, LN. 3 Jd.

## THE MARATHA IMPACT—SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

complied with from the Topkhana.<sup>1</sup> as the oxen were not available in open market. A *sanad* was issued for the regular supply of white marble from Makrana on April 30, 1784, to Ahlya Bai Holkar, for the construction of temples.<sup>2</sup> Man Singh became *Rakhi-bandh-bhai* of Jasvant Rao Holkar's wives, who were staying in Marwar from 1805-1809, as referred to above.<sup>3</sup> At the time of their departure Man Singh offered two jewelled *sarees*, two *sarees* of *kinkhab* and four *Dusalas*. The retinue accompanying these ladies also received adequate presents.<sup>4</sup> On the request of Tulsi Bai in 1811 for help on the succession issue of Jaswant Rao Holkar, Man Singh offered help to her.<sup>5</sup> Both Tulsi Bai and Laka Bai sent *Rakhis* to Man Singh every year and received rich presents.<sup>6</sup>

The Maratha agents from Sindia who visited Marwar were treated with lavish hospitality and rich presents were offered to them in order to please and placate them. Not only considerable amount of money was spent on such occasions, but also rich presents were sent to high officials of Sindia through them. One Pandit Antaji visited Jodhpur in 1709. On his departure he received rupees two hundred and one *Saropa*. Bijay Singh also sent rupees four thousand five hundred, a horse, one *Pagha*, two *Thans* of *Kinkhab*, one *Potia* eight *Thans* of Printed

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1. A letter from Bijay Singh to Pandit Gangadhar dated 10th day of the bright-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1820/June 9, 1764. AB. No. iv p. 17. Jd.
  2. A letter from Sawai Ram to Tilkoji Padsaji dated 10th day of the bright-half of Vaisaka vs. 1841/April 30, 1784. AB. No. iv p. 271. Jd.
  3. See pages 142-143.
  4. Hakikat Bahi no. ix pp. 2-4, 22 and 37. Jd.
  5. A letter from Man Singh to Tulsi Bai dated 15th of the bright-half of Margasirsha vs. 1869/Nov. 30, 1811. AB. No. V p. 104. Jd.
  6. Hakikat Bahi no. IX p. 37.

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1. A letter from Bijay Singh to Beharji Fakir dated 3th day of the dark-half of Magha vs. 1825/Jan. 26, 769. AB, No. iv p. 68, Jd.

Saropo—Dress from head to foot.

Pagha - A kind of turban 5 yards by one foot.

Potia —Another kind of turban. 5 yards by two and a half feet.

Than —Nine length piece of cloth.

2. Hakikat Bahi no. V p. 190. Jd.

3. Ibid. p. 208.

4. Ibid.

Kasumal means Dark-red.

Karpan-unbleached cloth.

Sarpech-A small pagha tied round the turban.

Panchua-A simple towel type cloth one and a half yard by two feet.

5. Ibid. p. 216.

6. Hakikat Bahi no. X p. 106. Jd.

Presents like tigers were also sent to Sindia. Bijay Singh sent four tigers to Mahadaji in Sept, 1791 (A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 15th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1848/Sept. 12, 1791. AB iv p. 47, Jd.

## THE MARATHA IMPACT—SOCIAL AND CULTURAL

The Maratha envoys, who visited Marwar, paid due respects to the dignity of the rulers. Whenever, they paid the visit to the Maharaja, they offered due *Nazar* and *Nichrawal* to him and they never left Marwar without obtaining *Seekh* (permission to leave) from him<sup>1</sup> The envoys during their stay at the capital of Rathors, participated in the festivals of the court. Gadhwa Fakirji attended the Gangor festival on April 8, 1791 and participated throughout the night in the entertainment programme, as arranged by the state.<sup>2</sup> On the occasion of Dewali the Maratha dignitaries staying at Jodhpur, received cash grants from the rulers<sup>3</sup> along with the state officials.

The Rathor-Maratha social relation was evident on the occasion of marriage ceremonies. A year before the battle of Tunga, Bijay Singh sent four *Mohurs* and ten rupees for the daughter of Mahadaji, who was going to be married and two *Sarees* of *Lahriya Korpalla* for his wife.<sup>4</sup> On the occasion of the marriage of the daughter of Daulat Rao Sindia, Man Singh sent rupees four thousand and four *thans* of clothes on July 1, 1817 through Vyas Jaskaran.<sup>5</sup> He again presented rupees one thousand on the marriage of another daughter of Daulat Rao,

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1. Hakikat Bahi No. v p. 167. Jd.

*Nichbrawal* is a mode of presenting money to the ruler.

2. Ibid; p. 204.

3. A letter from Macnaghten to Alves dated Oct. 30, 1838, F. P. Jan. 23, 1839. No. 30. (Appaji received three hundred yearly on this occasion since his coming to Jodhpur in 1829).

4. Hath Bahi No. ii p. 163. Jd.

*Lahriya* is a Marwari Orni (used by women folk in place of modern Chuni) 3 yards by one and half yards having the colour of seawaves with a touch of either green or rosy shade. *Korpalla* is a kind of orni, one corner of which is printed.

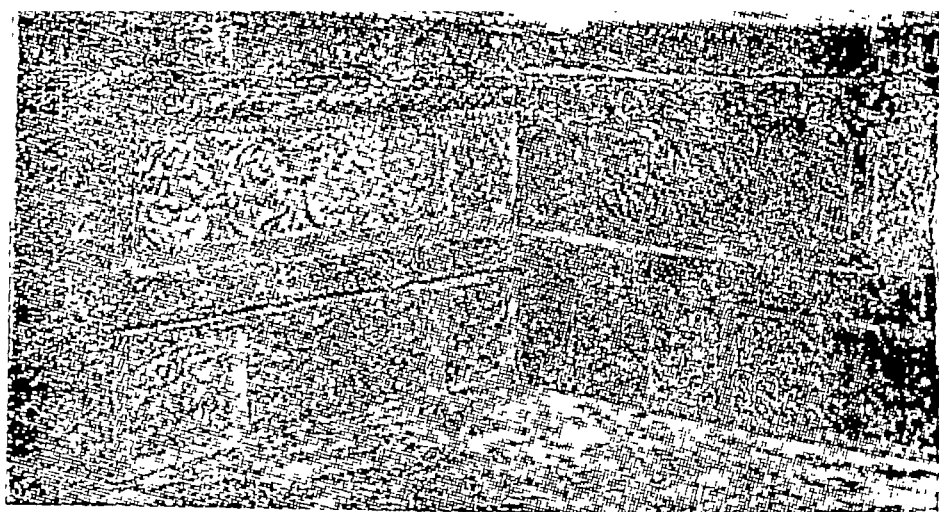
5. A letter from Man Singh to Daulat Roa dated 3rd day of the dark-half of First Sravana 15, 1874/July 1, 1817. AB. no. V p. 18. Jd.

in July 1822.<sup>1</sup> Pandit Ram Chandra, son-in-law of Pandit Baje Rao, whose marriage party had arrived at Jodhpur from Ajmer, was entertained by Man Singh on May 3, 1830, in the fort. He was further bestowed with gold anklets, pearls and *Dusalas*. His four friends were also given *Dusalas*.<sup>2</sup>

Whenever Maratha leaders were victorious against other enemies, they were duly congratulated by the Jodhpur rulers. Bijay Singh congratulated Mahadaji on his occupation of the fort of Asirgarh.<sup>3</sup> Rathor-Maratha contacts grew so close that Mahadaji, moved by the severity of the famine on the people of Marwar in 1782, contributed rupees fifteen thousand for relief works.<sup>4</sup> Further examples of the close contacts are clear from the occasional medical aid to the Maratha generals and officials during their illness as was given to Baji Narsing, the *Dewan* of Mahadaji.<sup>5</sup>

The Maratha leaders respected the religious sentiments of the rulers and assured them of the safety of their religious teachers in their sphere of influence. Mahadaji looked after the safe and comfortable stay of Shri Murlidhar, Gosain *Guru* of Bijay Singh during his stay in 1769 at Gokul, near Mathura.<sup>6</sup> Ambaji Ingle took security measures, as desired by Bhim Singh, during the

1. Ibid-4th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1879/July 8, 1822. AB.No. V p. 19. Jd.
2. Hakikat Bahl no. xl p. 248. Jd.
3. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 9th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1839/August 2, 1782. AB. No. iv p. 40. Jd.
4. A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1839./July 26, 1782. Pf. vi LN. 44. Jd.
5. Ibid-11th day of the dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1825/April 2, 1769. Pf. LN. 4. Jd.
6. Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 4th day of the bright-half of Vaisaka vs. 1826/May 9, 1769 AB iv p. 29. Jd.



Carving at the base of chattri of Jayaappa Sindia at Tausar.



course of the pilgrimage of his *Guru* to holy places in North India.<sup>1</sup> Sirji Rao Ghatka assured Man Singh that the temple of Ayasji Maharaj at Newai in Jaipur state, would be protected.<sup>2</sup>

The Maratha contact did not influence the art and architecture of Jodhpur. The *Chhattri* which was constructed over the remains of Jayappa at Tausar near Nagor does not exhibit any Maratha influence. It is a Mughal architecture with Rajput influence. It stands on a square platform seven feet high. The dome is after the Mughal fashion and the carving is indigenous.<sup>3</sup> A Shiva image in the middle of *Chhattri*, stands right under the hollow space of the dome.<sup>4</sup> Though the Marathas could not contribute towards the art in Jodhpur, yet they owe the growth of art in their domains to Marwar. The white marble stone of Makrana was in a great demand<sup>5</sup> by the Marathas for the construction of great temples and palaces at Indore, Ujjain and Gwalior. The main gate of Indore palace, Nana Phadnavis' house at Poona, Western *Naggarkhana* of the old Bhonslavad at Nagpur, constructed between 1795-1850 A.D., were influenced by the innumerable slim bays and balconies so characteristic of the Moti Mahal in Jodhpur fort.<sup>6</sup>

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1. Bhim Singh to Ambaji Ingle dated 7th day of the dark-half of Phalguna vs. 1857/Feb. 5, 1801 AB iv p. 74. Jd.
  2. Man Singh to S. R. Ghatka dated 6th day of the bright-half of Sravana vs. 1865/July 29, 1808 AB. iv p. 67. Jd.
  3. Chhattri facing page v.
  4. Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 1st day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1847/July 2, 1791. AB iv p. 45. Jd.
  5. Tukoji to Bijay Singh dated 6th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1841/June 9, 1784. Pf. iib file no. 1. LN. 4.;  
Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dsted 12th day of the bright-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1848/Sept. 9, 1791. AB. iv p. 47. Jd.
  6. An article by Dr. H. Goetz, 'Art of the Marathas and its problems', published in B. C. Law Commorative volume Pt. ii (1946) p. 441.

## CHAPTER VIII

### Bibliography

There is no paucity of sources, contemporary and secondary, for the period under review. They may be classified as follows :—

- A. Persian Chronicles.
- B. Persian *Farmans*, *Akhbarat* and *Vakil* reports.
- C. Contemporary Marathi Sources.
- D. Contemporary Marathi Letters.
- E. Contemporary Rajasthani *Kharitas* and Letters.
- F. Contemporary Bahi Records in Rajasthani.
- G. Rajasthani MS.
- H. Sanskrit MSS. and Letters.
- I. *Khyat* Literature.
- J. English Documents (Unpublished).
- K. English Documents (Published).
- L. Published Works in Hindi, Rajasthani and English.
- M. Gazetteers.
- N. Journals.
- O. Maps.
- P. Ephemery.

#### A. PERSIAN CHRONICLES

*Alamgirnama* (Per. Text. Bib. Ind.) by Mirza Muhammad Kasim. It is an official history of first ten years of the reign of Aurangzib. I have found it useful for the early relation

of Aurangzib with Jasvant Singh. It records Jasvant Singh's activities in the Deccan against the Marathas, Shivaji's arrest at Agra and the subsequent responsibility of Jasvant Singh to re-arrest Shivaji.

**Maasir-I-Alamgiri** (MS. of S.B.L. Udaipur and Per. Text, *Bib. Ind.* 1870-B) by Muhammed Saqi Must-idd-Khan. For first ten years of the reign, the MS. from *Saraswati Bhandar Library* is referred to. Then, text from *Bibliotheca Indica* is quoted. It covers the whole of Alamgir's reign. Though written after the death of Aurangzib, it records the history from 1657-1707 basing on Alamgirnama, *Akhbarat*, issued from the capital and his personal knowledge, as he was an eye witness of several events, described by him I have found some of the events, mentioned therein, very useful, e.g., the period of Jasvant Singh's governorship of Gujrat, the part played by him in Shivaji-Shayista Khan episode, the role he performed in the Deccan against the Marathas, the resistance of the Rathors after Jasvant Singh's death and Durga Das' march to get Maratha help.

**Muntakhab-UI-Lubab** (Per. Text, *Bib. Ind.* 1869) by Muhammad Hashim Khafi Khan. It begins from Babur and ends at the 14th year of Muhammed Shah's reign. The first part, which deals from Babur to Shah Jahan, is not useful for my purpose. The second part has rendered very useful information. It was compiled by the author privately during the life time of the Emperor Aurangzib and made public after his death. The author has thrown sufficient light on Jasvant Singh's complicity in the night attack on Shayista Khan, the attitude of the Emperor towards him, the Rathor resistance movement and the march of Durga Das to join Shambhuji in the Deccan. It also records the activities of Jasvant Singh's son Ajit Singh during the reigns of Bahadur Shah, Jahandar Shah and his plan to overthrow Farrukh Siyar with the help of the Marathas in 1719.

**Maasir-ul-Umra.** (Per. Text, Bib. 1887-95 Ind.) by Shah Nawaz Khan (1742-79). It is a biographical dictionary of the Mughal nobles from the days of Babur to the 22nd year of Aurangzib's reign (1679) in three volumes. This work is of no use for the main subject matter of my study. However, it gives a sketchy biography of Jasvant Singh.

**Nuskha-i-Dilkusha.** (Per. Text Sitamau) by Bhimsen. The author was in the service of Mughals in the Deccan. He was an eye witness of many events in the Deccan affairs, particularly of the period 1670-1707 A. D. It has helped me to evaluate the Rathor-Maratha relation during Shivaji's attack on Poona on April 5, 1663 and subsequent events. It also throws an important light on the renewal of friendly relations between Jasvant Singh and Shivaji during the period 1667-1670 A. D.

**Fatuh-at-i-Alamgiri.** (Per-text Sitamau) by Ishwar Das. He was a Nagar Brahman of Pattan in Gujrat. He was a Mughal civil officer at Jodhpur, when it was under Mughal administration. It is the first rate authority for the events in Rajputana during the period 1657-1698 A. D. Though it does not throw much light on Rathor-Maratha contacts, yet it is highly useful for Rathor-Mughal relations. It gives a vivid description of Jasvant Singh's activities in Gujrat and Ajit Singh's struggle against the Mughals.

**Mirat-i-Ahmadi.** (Per. Text, Bib. Ind.?) by Ali Muhammad Khan. It is in three volumes. For my purpose the work contains much information regarding Rathor activities in Gujrat and Marwar during the times of Ajit Singh and Abhay Singh. It records the Ahmadabad pact between Baji Rao and Abhay Singh, the Maratha-Rathor clash over Baroda, the murder of Pilaji Gaikawar and Abhay Singh's administration in Gujrat.

**Seir-Mutaqherin.** 1902. R. Cambray and Co. Calcutta) by Sayyid Ghulam Husain. It is in four volumes. It was

## PERSIAN CHRONICLES

First translated by M. Ramand *alias* Hazi Mustaffa, a frenchman, in 3 volumes. Notaman translated it in English in 1784 and presented it to Warren Hastings. In 1902 Cambray and Company, Calcutta published it after a lapse of 117 years. It is a history of seven last rulers of the Mughal Empire. The author was both an actor and spectator of the events during his life time. It records the participation of the Maratha army under Balaji Vishwanath in the overthrow of Farrukhsiyar by Ajit Singh. It also throws light on the clash of the Maratha army with the partisans of the Emperor at Delhi. It also records in details the support given by Salabat Khan to Bakht Singh against Ram Singh and the part played by the Maratha army in the battle of Pipar, 1751.

**Tarikh-i-Hind.** (Extracts translated in Elliot and Dowson Vol. viii) by Rustam Ali. It informs the defeat of the joint front of the Rajputs against the Maratha generals, Holkar and Sindia at Rampura. It also records the invasion of the two generals in Marwar in 1736 and levying of tribute by them from Bakht Singh of Nagor.

**Chahar-Gulzar-i-Shujai.** (Extracts translated in Elliot and Dowson Vol. viii) by Harcharan Das. This work was completed in 1784. It is useful regarding the information it gives about the siege of Nagor by Jayappa and his ultimate murder. It also records Jat Raja Jawahar Singh's meeting with Bijay Singh at Pushkar in 1767 and the agreement signed by them to drive out the Marathas from the North India.

## B. PERSIAN FARMANS, AKHBARAT AND VAKIL REPORTS.

**Farmans.** I came across about fifty *farmans* issued at the orders of the Imperial Court to the rulers of Marwar. preserved in the State Archives at Bikaner. Only a few *farmans*

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

are useful for my purpose. The *farmans* issued by Bahadur Shah in 1710, relates to the Mughal recognition of the status of Ajit Singh as the ruler of Jodhpur. Ahmad Shah Abdali's *farmans* of the years 1755, 1759 and 1761 are very important. The *farmans* record the readiness of the Afghan ruler to help the Rathor against the Marathas in 1755 with the expectation that he might get their support against the Marathas at the battle of Panipat in 1761. The *farman* of the year 1761 informs the victory of Abdali over the Marathas and his invitation to Bijay Singh to co-operate with him in consolidating the gains over the Deccanies.

**Akhbarat-I-Darbar-Mualla** (State Archives, Bikaner). They consist of small slips of brown paper, each briefly recording one day's occurrence at the Imperial court viz. the movements and doings of the Emperor, the time of holding court, the appointments made, summaries of the despatches received and the orders passed on them etc. They are in persian and run from the year 1666 to 1719. *Akhbarat* of the Ry. 10 and Ry. 12 helped me to judge the Rathor diplomacy at play during the peace talks of Shivaji after his return from Agra. *Akhbar* of Ry. 24 furnishes Akbar and Durga Das' arrival in the Deccan. *Akhbar* of Ry. 45 informs the attitude of submission by Ajit Singh to the Emperor in 1700 and *Akhbar* dated Ry. 51 records a proposal of Aurangzib, on the eve of his death, about the need of Ajit Singh's support for him in Gujrat for which he was prepared to give him concessions in Marwar. The *Akhbarat* of the period of Bahadur Shah's Ry. 4 and of Jahan-dar Shah's Ry-1 have no direct bearing to my study but they serve the link of the events.

**Vakil Reports** (Persian, State Archives, Bikaner). These reports were sent by the agents of the Jaipur rulers, residing at Delhi Court, to the *Dewan* or some times to Maharajas of

Jaipur. They were a sort of news information regarding the activities in the Court as well as a summary of the despatches arrived at the court and orders of the Emperor on them. Only a few such reports are useful for my purpose. The *Vakil* report of dated 29th *Shawwal* Ry-25 relates to the march of Durga Das, Akbar and the Marathas towards Ahmadabad in 1682. The report of the Ry. 26 relates the occupation of Ahmadabad by Rathors and the report of dated 17th *Jamd-d'al akhir* Ry. 26 furnishes a compromise plan of the Rathors to the Empror on condition that Akbar might be appointed as the governor of Ahmadabad.

### C. CONTEMPORARY MARATHI SOURCES

I have used published Marathi sources, which are contemporary to the events under review. They are useful in corroborating various events.

#### Shiva Chhatrapatichen Charita.

( edk. M Sane-1912 3rd ed. ) It was composed in 1696 by Krishnaji Anant Sabhasad, a contemporary of Shivaji and an-eye witness of many of the events of the period under review. The *Bhakar* records Jaswant Singh's relation with Shivaji in the Deccan, Shivaji's visit to Agra, reaction on Shivaji regarding Jasvant Singh's status in the Imperial Court and Shivaji's preparations during the period of lull 1667-1669:

**Jedhe Yanchi Sakavali** (1927-ed-Sarkar) It is a bare record of events with dates kept by Jedhes, a Maratha Kshtriya family in Mavel. The dates are given in the Saka era. It contains 243 entries starting from the Saka year 1540 and ends with Saka year 1619. It records Jaswant Singh's part during Shivaji-Shayista Khan episode, his attacks on Kondlana and Shambhuji's visit to Jasvant Singh after the peace had been settled in 1667. It also throws light on the arrival of Durga Das and Akbar in the Deccan. Instead of referring page number of the *Sakavali*, I have referred the Saka year number with the months eg. under reference of the year 1585, *Phalguna*.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

### D. CONTEMPORARY MARATHI LETTERS IN V.K. RAJWADE'S MARATHYANCHYA ITIHASACHI SADHANE ( 1898-1902 )

From 1908 to 1926 for nearly three decades, Rajwade brought about 22 volumes of historical materials consisting of original letters and documents. Letters in the volumes No. i, ii, vi, vii have been found useful for my purpose. Letter No. 44 of the vol. i gives the information regarding the siege of Nagor by Jayappa and the privation, hunger and thirst prevailing in the fort and outside. Letters No. 327, 341 in the Vol. vi relate to the instructions of the Peshwa to Jayappa for carrying out the immediate termination of the Marwar campaign.

**Aitihāsik Patren Yadi Waghaire Lekh (1930)** Edited by G. S. Serdesai, Kale and Wakaskar. Letters 122, 124, 125, 127, 131, 139, 141, 142, 143 are useful for my purpose. Letters No. 122, 124 record Jayappa Sindia's march on to Marwar and the victory at Merta. Letter No. 141 refers to the agreement signed between the Marathas and Bijay Singh in February, 1756;



**Expansion of the Maratha Power** (Selection from Peshwa Daftar—New Series) edited by V.V. Joshi vol. i. It has unrevealed letters relating to the affairs of the Marathas in Marwar. Letter No. 6 informs that Marwar was *Saranjami* of Holkar, bestowed by the Peshwa Baji Rao in 1728. Letter No. 117 dated 14th September, 1754, gives the date of the battle of Merta on the day it was written. The date hitherto known was 15th September 1754. The renewal of Ram Singh--Bijay Singh struggle after the battle of Panipat and the formidable position of the Marathas in helping Ram Singh is referred to in the letter No. 246.

**Shindheshahi Itihasanchi Sadhane** Edited by Anand Rao Phalke. The letters are in four volumes. Only a few letters preserved by the Gulgule family of Kota, compiled in the above volumes, are useful. Letter No. 320 of the volume iii refers to the murder of Jayappa Sindia at Nagor in July, 1755. Letter No. 41 of volume ii throws light on the employment of the Marathas in Jodhpur state service.

**Holkarshahichya Itihanchi Sadhane.** Edited by V.V. Thakur. The letters are in two volumes. The first volume contains 456 letters and second volume contains 346 letters. Letter No. 236 of the vol. i refers to the proposal of peace from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji Sindia through Tukoji Holkar in July 1789. Bhima Bai's information to her father Yasvant Rao Holkar regarding the conditions of the family of Holkar at Chenpura, near Jodhpur in 1805 is revealed in letter No. 170 of the second volume.

### **Historical Papers Regarding Mahadaji Sindia.**

Edited by G. S. Serdesai. It contains 608 letters, dating from 1774 to 1792 A. D. The letters throw immense flood of light on Marwar-Maratha struggle for supremacy in Rajasthan. They

cover a detailed account of Maratha diplomacy at work at the battles of Tunga, Patan and Merta. Letter No. 411 informs about the political situation in Rajasthan on the eve of the battle of Tunga. Letter No. 575 records Mahadaji's determination of reducing Jodhpur to dust in 1790. Letter No. 587 gives the terms of the peace between Mahadaji and Bijay Singh in January, 1791.

**Selections from chandrachud record volume II.** Edited by D.V. Apte and Dongre. Letter No. 82 gives an interesting information that soon after the defeat of the Rathors at the hands of De Boigne, the people of Jodhpur expected Sindia's attack on Jodhpur. They began to flee and Bijay Singh prepared for going to Jaisalmer or Jalor. Letters Nos. 78, and 80 record Mahadaji's promise to Holkar to share the fruits of spoils after the victory over the Rathor's.

**Dilli yethil Marathayanchi Raj Karne.** It was brought out in two parts and a supplement by D. B. Parasnis in *Itihasa Sangraha* in the years 1913-1914. The letters contain all available correspondence from Purshottam Mahadev Hingane, the Maratha Agent at Delhi. They deal with the period 1780-1795 and throw light on policy and activity of Mahadaji Sindia in Marwar. Letter No. 199 of the vol. i informs Mahadaji Sindia's movement towards Jaipur and Jodhpur in March, 1787. Letters No. 220 and No. 221 give the number of Rathor force on the eve of the battle of Tunga. Letter No. 37 of the supplement volume records the march of De Boigne and Marathas from Patan to Ajmer in 1790. A letter No. 4 of the supplement records the terms of the treaty of Sambhar in January, 1791.

**Jodhpur Yethil Raj Karne.** Edited by D.B. Parasnis in *Itihasa Sangraha* in the year 1915. The letters written by Krishnaji Jagan Nath, the Peshwa's agent at the court of

Jodhpur, cover the period from 1785 to 1794. They are 33 letters compiled in a volume with a supplement. Letter No 5 records the traditions that Holkar and Abhay Singh had entered into brotherly relations. Letters No. 16 and 17 throw light on the negotiations carried on between Bijay Singh and Mahadaji Sindia. Letter No 16 also records that Mahadaji had asked for two crores of rupees from Jodhpur as a war indemnity after the battle of Merta 1790. Letter No. 17 informs Bijay Singh's terms for peace.

**Poona Akhbarat vol. iii** (published in 1956). Letter No. 202 (p, 132) records the intention of Mahadaji to press for cession of the fort of Ajmer and the payment to regular tribute from Bijay Singh in 1790.

**Maheshwar Darbarachin Badami Patren.** In two volumes edited by D.B. Parasnis in 1910-1911 A.D. The letters, written to Ahalaya Bai Holkar and Indore government, cover the period from 1779 to 1796. The first volume, from 1719 to 1784 contains only 125 letters whereas the total number of letters of the second volume, 1783 to 1796 is 276. Only volume second is found useful for my purpose. Letters number 18, 114, 146, 147, 149, 150, 153, 154, 157, 171, 173, 181, 201, 205, 209 are useful for the study of the period under review. Letter No. 18 refers to the Marwari business men at Indore that they had not cleared off the state tax of rupees 1,500 upto the Dewali, which was regarded as the closing day of the year. Letter No. 149 mentions that Bijay Singh's son himself led an army of 15,000 to join Jaipur army on the eve of battle of Tunga. Bijay Singh's unsuccessful efforts to bring Holkar on his side in 1788 is referred in letter No. 171.

**Hingane Daftar** in two volumes edited by G.S. Sardesai and others. The first volume contains 219 letters and

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

covers a period from 1691 to 1761 A.D. Letter No. 32 of December 26, 1748 refers that the Emperor bestowed Ajmer to Bakht Singh in order to check the advance of the Marathas. Letter No. 59 describes that Purohit Jagan Nath gave an advance to Jayappa to bring an army of 10 to 12 thousand force for two months. Besides these letters, letter numbers 2,109,189 are also very useful. The second volume contains only 124 letters. It also covers the same period. Only letter No 8 of December 12, 1749 was found useful as it refers to the cause of civil war in Marwar between Ram Singh and Bakht Singh.

(The number against the volume indicates letter number except otherwise the page number is mentioned)

### (E) Contemporary Rajasthani Kharitas and letters

A vast material of the history of Marwar is lying hidden in Rajasthan State Archives, Bikaner. Formerly, the States of Rajasthan had their own record offices but after integration of the States, Archives of Rajasthan centralised the vast material lying at various record offices. I found many documents useful for my purpose. They can be classified State-wise. The records from Jodhpur and Jaipur are very useful for my study. Records from Kota, Bundi and Udaipur were only of casual importance.

**Jaipur Record.** It is in Rajasthani language and in MS. form, I have used *Kharitas*, Draft *Kharitas*, *Vakil* Reports and documents from *Kapaddwara* section. The period covered by *Karttikas* is from 1710 to 1947. Drafts *Kharitas* run from 1725 to 1947. The *Vakil* Reports cover the period from 1657 to 1719. A *Kharitas* from Bakht Singh to Madho Singh of Jaipur dated 11th day of the bright-half of *Pausha* vs. 1807 informs the attitude of the Rathor chief towards Holkar in a contest with his rival Ram Singh. A *Kharita* from Gaj Singh

of Bikaner dated 2nd day of dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1812 informs the movement of the ruler to help Bijay Singh during the siege of Nagor in November, 1755.

Draft *Kharitas* have been much useful for the period of Abhay Singh's struggle with his brothers during the early years of his reign. A draft *Kharita* from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 4th day of the bright-half of *Asvina* vs. 1782 records the movement of the Jaipur forces at the direction of Abhay-Singh, to defend his *Jagir* of Idar from the Marathas.

*Vakil* Reports were the information sent to *Dewan* of Jaipur by the agents of Jaipur ruler at Delhi. A report dated 8th day of the dark-half of *Jyeshtha* vs. 1723 informs that on the advice of Jasvant Singh, Aurangzib put Shivaji under arrest. Another report dated 9th day of the dark-half of *Margasirsha* vs. 1769 records the bestowing of the governorship of Gujrat to Ajit Singh by Jahandar Shah.

The copies of the documents preserved at *Kapaddwara* (Yet a private possession of Jaipur Maharaja) were made available to me by the State Archives Bikaner. I found some of the documents useful. A *Qualnama* between Madho Singh and Bijay Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of *Phalguna* vs. 1816 informs the agreement of both the rulers to act jointly against the Abdali and the Marathas during their struggle for supremacy for the North India in 1760-1761.

**Jodhpur Record.** It is of variety in nature. The most important to my purpose are *Kharitas* in port-folio, *Hakikat-Bahi*, *Hath Bahi*, *Khas-Rukka Bahi*, *Arzee Bahi*, *Dholian-Ka-Kothar* records, *Bastas* and letters of Abhay Singh to Bhandari Amar Singh.

**Kharitas in Portfolios.** They have been preserved in

card board portfolios specially prepared for the purpose. They are thirty one in number, consisting of original *Kharitas*, *Rukkas*, *Teharir* (notes) addressed to the rulers and administrators of Jodhpur by the rulers, chiefs and administrators of different States, both of Rajasthan and out-side. They have been classified alphabetically (*nagri*) starting from Ahmadnagar, Ajmer and Alwar. The letters and documents have been traced from the files numbers 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10. File No. 4 and 2B cover letters and *Kharitas* from Holkar and No. 6 covers letters from Sindia. The documents in each portfolio are arranged chronologically according to the rulers of Jodhpur and a brief note is attached with each sub-section file of the portfolio. These *Kharitas* begin from the reign of Jasvant Singh and run down to the reign of Umed Singh (1947-A.D.). But generally the period covered by them is from Ajit Singh to Man Singh (1707-1843 A.D.) A letter from Malhar Rao Holkar to Bijay Singh dated 12th day of the bright-half of *Asvina* vs. 1809 preserved in portfolio No. 2 B. file No. 1 informs that Holkar had accepted the accession of Bijay Singh on the throne of Marwar, an interesting change in the policy of Holkar, who by family relations should have put forward the case of Ram Singh. The fact that Mahadaji Sindia gave the responsibility of safeguarding his interest in Mewar to Bijay Singh, is revealed in a letter to Bijay Singh written by Mahadaji on 2nd day of the dark-half of *Ashadha* vs 1828 (portfolio No. 6 letter No. 13) Letters from Ambaji Ingle to Bhim Singh dated 10th day of the dark-half of *Asvina* and 6th day of bright-half of *Karttika* vs. 1856 refer to the receipt of valuable jewels and Rs. 8,000/- sent by the latter with Akhay Raj. (portfolio No. 2 B file No. 2 letters No: 2 and 6)

### Letters from Abhay Singh to Amar Singh Bhandari

These letters were written at the orders of Maharaja Abhay

## CONTEMPORARY BAHİ RECORD IN RAJASTHAN

Singh from Gujrat to his agent at Delhi Bhandari Amar Singh. They throw fresh light on the Maratha--Rathor struggle for supremacy in Gujrat during the period 1730-1733. These letters are sometimes very long and depict the political situation in details. A letter written on 12th day of the bright-half of *Karttika* vs. 1782 refers to the efforts of Abhay Singh to keep Mughal-Rathor hold on Gujrat without the aid from Imperial support. Letters dated 11th day of the bright-half of *Chaitra* vs. 1788 and 13th day of the bright-half of *Vaisaka* vs. 1788 record in details how Pilaji Gaikwar was murdered at Dakore. The facts that Abhay Singh, while working hard during the famine conditions in Gujrat in the middle of July, 1732, had conquered Baroda and twenty four forts from the Marathas, are referred in his letter to his *Vakil* dated 1st day of the dark-half of *Bhadrapada* vs. 1789.

### (F) Contemporary Bahi records in Rajasthan (MS. Form)

This record consists of *Hakikat Bahi*, *Hath Bahi*, *Khas Rukka Bahi*, *Kharita Bahi* and *Arzee Bahi*.

**Hakikat Bahis.** They record the daily routine of the rulers of Jodhpur, their movements and places of visit. They also furnish the information regarding the visit of political personalities, who waited on the Maharajas. The *Bahis* begin from the *Vikrama Samvat* 1821 and continue upto the last ruler of state viz. Hanvant Singh. Each *Bahi* covers a period from five to ten years of the ruler's reign. For my purpose the *Bahi* upto number 11 are very useful. They also help to correct the dates of the events and visit of the personalities. *Hakikat Bahis* No. 9 furnishes the information regarding the stay of Holkar's family at Jodhpur from 1805 to 1809 (pp. 2-4, 22, and 37). Entries on pages 80, 84, 80-89 of the *Hakikat Bahi* No. 10

record Amir Khan's planned murder of Inder Raj Singhvi and Deo Nath Ayas. *Hakikat Bahi* No. 11 at page 218 records the visit of Appaji Ehensle at Jodhpur and the arrangements made by Man Singh for his comfortable and safe stay at Mahamandir.

**Hath Bahis.** They are five in number. For my study only first four are useful. They generally record the amount of the tribute paid to Marathas. *Hath Bahi* No. 2 at pages 124-125 records the detailed account of the tribute paid by Bijay Singh to Mahadaji Sindia for the years vs. 1835-1839. The total amount paid was 7,00,000 out of the amount fixed at 9,00,000. One interesting record which *Hath Bahi* No. 3 at pages 42-43 mentions, is the agreement arrived at between Mookhtar-ood Daula, a general of Amir Khan, and Man Singh regarding the permanent employment of his force in the service of the Rathor ruler. *Hath Bahi* number four refers to a Rathor colony in Maharashtra. It refers its population and history. It also mentions that the Rathor rulers also paid its tribute to the Marathas.

**Khas-Rukka Bahis** These *Bahis* contain the orders and directions of the rulers of Marwar to the nobles. *Bahi* No. 2 page 2 furnishes the direction of Man Singh to his chiefs, when Jodhpur fort was being tightly besieged by the combined forces of Jaipur, the Marathas and Amir Khan, to save their motherland from the invaders. At page 3, the same *Bahi* furnishes the plan of Man Singh to distract Amir Khan and Sirji Rao Ghatka to his side.

**Arzee Bahis.** They are seven in number. For my purpose *Bahis* numbers four and five are most useful. They are absolutely concerned with the letters sent by the rulers and administrators of Jodhpur to *Maratha* generals and administrators like Mahadaji, Daulat Rao, Tukoji Holkar, Anand Rao, Bable, Aba Chitnis, Rane Khan, Ambaji Ingle, Lakhwa Dada etc.



They cover the period from 1754 to 1843. The total number of the pages of the *Bahis* is nearly 474. They contain more than 700 copies of the letters. These *Bahis* have been of immense use and the information revealed by them throws much light on the Marwar-Maratba relations. Letters from Jodhpur minister Khichi Gordhan to Mahadaji Sindia, Rane Khan and Pandit Aba Chitnis sent on 12th day of the dark-half of second *Ashadha* vs. 1846 (*Arzee Bahi* No. 4) furnish the efforts for peace by Jodhpur ruler after his debacle at Merta on September 10, 1790.

The same *Bahi* at page 50 dated 9th day of the bright-half of *Ashadha* vs. 1849 records a letter from Bhim Singh to Mahadaji revealing that he occupied Jodhpur with the help of his agents at Jodhpur, just a week after the death of Bijay Singh. The letter at the pages 3 and 4 dated 9th day of the bright-half of *Magha* vs. 1862 in *Arzee Bahi* No. 5 records the promises of Man Singh to Daulat Rao Sindia to render Rathor service to him at any time he took arms against the British and act as a mediatory to reconcile the differences between him and Holkar, if he helped him against Jaipur and Udaipur with whom he had a quarrel over the marriage of Krishna Kumari. Another letter on page 120 of the same *Bahi* dated 5th day of the bright-half of *Chaitra* vs. 1867 furnishes the bestowing of the fort of Ghanerao in Godwad to Amir Khan, thus allowing him to dominate the politics of Marwar.

### Dholian-ka-Kothar Records.

It is a vast record, containing original letters and their copies. The Kothar was located in the fort and was under the direct supervision of *Shri Huzur Daftar*. All state documents, concerning the administration and otherwise were preserved here. It is at present lying with the Archives Department of Rajas-

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

than, Bikaner. Different letters have been classified into different files, out of which the following are useful for my purpose.

*Arzee File* Numbers 1 to 6 and 122.

*Amal-Ki-Chithi* file number 7 and 105.

File Concerning *Uthantri* of villages No. 22.

„	„	<i>Khato-Kitab</i>	No. 28 and No. 30.
„	„	<i>Tambapatra</i>	No. 46
„	„	<i>Ghoda</i> and <i>Saman</i>	No. 387.
„	„	<i>Intjami Siga</i>	No. 58.
„	„	<i>Rekh Chakri</i> and <i>Hukamnama</i>	No. 71.
„	„	<i>Sayar</i>	No. 76.
„	„	<i>Ijara</i>	No. 109 and No. 110,
„	„	<i>Jama-Kharch</i>	No. 43 and No. 44.
„	„	<i>Khas Rukka</i> and <i>Dewani Parwana</i>	No. 107.

Some of the letters in the different files also record the events concerning the Marathas. A letter dated May 21, 1789, in *Arzee* file No. 5 mentions that despite a treaty between Bijay Singh and Partap Singh of Jaipur, after the battle of Tunga, not to act independently with Sindia, Partap Singh signed a separate agreement with Mahadaji, without caring Bijay Singh's reactions

*Jama-Kharch* file No. 44, contains a record of the details of the payment of the tribute, arrears of the tribute and war indemnity to Sindia as agreed by the ruler at Sambhar in 1790.

**Bastas** (Jodhpur Record, Rajasthan Archives, Bikaner),

These are red and dark-blue cloth bound wrappers, containing original and copies of the original *Bahis*, *Khyats*, documents, letters and registers. The *Bastas* preserve important source material of the period under review. The total number

of *Bastas* in 103, but numbers 9, 14, 20, 28, 34, 40, 43 52, 60, 65, 80, 99 and 101 are only useful for my purpose.

### G. RAJASTHANI MS.

**Ajit Granth.** Rajasthani literature has very little bearing in history but I have found some historical references in *Ajit Granth*, a manuscript preserved at *Pustak Prakash*, Umed Bhawan, Jodhpur. It traces history of Marwar rulers upto the year 1696 A. D. It is of very little importance for my purpose. However verse 630 informs the arrival of Durga Das in the Deccan and verses 1425--1427 record his meetings with Shambhuji.

**Bijay Vilas** (*Granth* No. 25. *Basta* No. 14 Jd.) by Barhat Bishan Singh. This work is in Rajasthani language and according to Tod contained one lac verses. However only a part of it in 152 pages, is available at present, preserved as a copy of the original work. It deals with the history from Abhay Singh to Bijay Singh's reign upto 1754. Half of the work deals with the reign of Abhay Singh and Bakht Singh. Their relations with the Marathas is briefly referred. Bijay Singh's war with Jayappa Sindia is described from pages 114 to 152. The work, being a contemporary, is important as it carries Rathor point of view of the struggle against the Marathas. It also supplements partly the available contemporary Persian and Marathi sources.

### Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali

[*Granth* 14, *Basta* 28 Jd.]

Though the author is unknown, it is a contemporary work written during the earlier period of Bijay Singh's reign. It deals with the history of Marwar upto the end of the first Maratha invasion, 1756. It contains 493 pages and has 665 verses. It is full of dates and on comparison with the dates

referred in other contemporary sources, it is in general agreement except a few. It deals with Maratha-Rathor relations from 1662-1756. Some of the references are revealing. The Hurda conference, 1734, a summit-meet of Rajputana states, to formulate a common policy against the Maratha is discussed in verses 39-44 on the pages 269-270. The author reveals that it met under the leadership of Maharana Jagat Singh of Udaipur, not Jay Singh and that the germs of discord in between Abhay Singh and Jay Singh had crept into soon after it ended, thus weakening the common cause against the Marathas. It brings out at page 366. vv. 413 that the neutrality of the Holkar during Bakht Singh-Ram Singh struggle for Jodhpur, was due to the fact that Bakht Singh had purchased it at a cost of rupees two lacs through Raj Singh.

## H SANSKRIT MSS. AND LETTERS.

**Ajitodaya.** ( MS. Pustak Prakash, Umed Bhawan, Jodhpur, No 1, Kavya.) It was composed by Bhatt Jag Jiwan. The author was a contemporary of Ajit Singh and Abhay Singh. He furnishes valuable information regarding the Maratha-Rathor relations during the times of Ajit Singh. The Ms. consists of thirty-two cantos, folios 312 covering a period of fifty years (1674 to 1724 A D. . Canto Nos. 11, 13, 22, 23, and 27 are particularly useful for my study. Canto No. 11 records the visit of Durgidas and Akbar towards the Deccan and the reception given by Shambhuji to them, the friendship and alliance with Kavi Kalash, the march of Rathors and the Marathas under Kavi Kalash's son towards Ahmadabad and return of Durga Das to Marwar. Canto No, 27 informs that Ajit Singh overthrew the rule of Farrukh Siyar with the help of the Marathas.

**Abhyodaya.** ( MS. Pustak Prakash, Umed Bhawan, Jodhpur ) by Bhatt Jag Jiwan. The author of the former verse book has also written about his patron Abhay Singh. The book is of the same size and description as that of the above. It is of little use for my purpose.

## Two Sanskrit Letters of Shambhuji to Ram Singh.

(State Archives, Bikaner, Jaipur Record) Though the letters are undated yet by the contents, it can be evaluated that they were written in about May 1682. The letters record the request of Shambhuji to Raja Ram Singh of Jaipur to help the cause of Rathors both with money and men. It also mentions that he was sending a force with Durga Das to whom he should join in the North.

## I. KHYAT LITERATURE.

The *Khyats* are histories of the state of Marwar and other states as mentioned here. These are contemporary records, as the last record mentioned therein ends with the reign of Man Singh in 1843 A.D. Some of these *Khyats* are based on contemporary *Bahā* records. The different *Khyats* referred in the work are:—

<i>Nensi Khyat</i>	(Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur)
<i>Marwar Khyat</i>	(Anop Sanskrit Library, Bikaner)
<i>Dayal Das Khyat</i>	(Anop Sanskrit Library, Bikaner)
<i>Mundiyaḍ Khyat</i>	( <i>Bastas</i> Nos. 20 and 40. Jodhpur record, Rajasthan Archives Bikaner)
<i>Banki Das Khyat</i>	(Oriental Research Institute, Jodhpur)
<i>Tatodi Ilaka Khyat</i>	( <i>Basta</i> No. 40. Jodhpur record, Rajasthan Archives, Bikaner)
<i>Melone Khyat</i>	( <i>Ibid</i> )
<i>Balan-Khyat</i>	( <i>Basta</i> No. 101, Jodhpur Record, Rajasthan Archives, Bikaner)

## J. ENGLISH DOCUMENTS

(Unpublished, National Archives of India, New Delhi)

These are the letters and reports sent by the English Agents and Residents stationed at Delhi, Ajmer and Jodhpur, to the

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

Secretary to Governor General and the letters received from him at different times. They cover the period from 1785 onwards upto the time of the period of my study. They furnish first hand information and as such are very useful for my purpose. They have been classified into Foreign Secret Consultations, Foreign Political Consultations, Rajputana Agency Office Files and proceedings of the Board of Directors. The letter sent by Metcalfe to John Adams on May 29, 1817 (Foreign Political Consultation dated 14th June, 1817 No. 13) furnishes that Man Singh did not transfer his power to his son Chhatar Singh willingly but he was forced to retire from active politics by the court party led by his son and Akhay Raj. Lord William Bentinck writing to Man Singh on December 2, 1834 (Rajputana Agency Office File No. 5 Jodhpur II 1834) regarded his headship of the Rathors in a state of probation. The letter preserved in Foreign Secret Consultation dated 6th November 1839 No. 43 records the declaration of a war on Jodhpur on August 17, 1839, by Sutherland, as the representative of the Governor General, because Man Singh had refused to comply with the British demands.

### *A History of Ajmer and Jodhpur (MS. State Archives, Bikaner).*

It was written by Ghulam Qadir in 1817. It is a brief narrative of the events of the history of Ajmer and Jodhpur. It records the different Maratha and Rathor governors of Ajmer Fort. It also throws light on the circumstances of its surrender to the Rathors in December, 1787 and its reoccupation by Mahadaji Sindia in 1790-1791.

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## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

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Travenier, John  
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Ball)  
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Wheeler J. : Summary of the affairs of the Maratha  
Talboys State 1627-1856 (1878 A.D.)  
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vii to ix (1844, London)  
W.W. Webb ; The currencies of Hindu states of Raj-  
putana.

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## N. JOURNALS

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## MAPS

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Varda (Vol. iv, year 4).

Democratic Youth (February, 1961).

## O. MAPS

In providing maps and finding exact locations of the places of the villages in Gujrat and Marwar, sketch maps attached with Gazetteer of Bombay Presidency, Rajputana Gazetteer Vol. iii A, and map of Rajputana, Survey Department of India have been studied-

## P. EPHEMERY

J S, Gehlot ; Aithihasik-Tithi-Patruk vs, 1700-1900  
(Hindi Sahitya Mandir, Jodhpur,  
1962),



## APPENDIX 'A'

A document to illustrate the early relations of the Rathors and the Marathas. Text of Maharaja Abhay Singh's letter to Bhandari Amar Singh regarding the Rathor activities in Gujrat in 1732 (See Chapter II pp. 53) Jodhpur Record.

मोहर

(मोहर में लेख)

महामाया श्री हिंगुलाज प्रसादात घनपति श्री राजेश्वर महाराजाधिराज महाराजा श्री अमरसिंह देव विजयते मानुतेज स्वरूपेण मही मध्येषु राजते हरि अंवा सूर विनायक ये सुर पञ्च सदाफल दायक

(महाराजा की सही ।)

सिध्द श्री श्री राजराजेश्वर महाराजाधिराज श्री अमरसिंह जी महाराज कंवर श्री रामसिध्द जी देव बचनात मां ।। अमरसिध्द दिसे सु परसाद वा चणो ।। तथा ।। नीबाव नु खत छै सो दीज्यो न कहेज निबाव रा लिखणों सु ईतरो घाट करणो ईण तरफ ने कुचकीयों गनीम ने मार ने बडोरो चोईस गडिया सु लीयो पीलू लाखों खरचीयां ने लाख अस्वारा सु न मरे-तिरणु मारीयों गनीम ने काढने मुक्त साफ कियों ने आज तक में अठारा काम ऊपर मेहनत कीवी छै सु मालम ऊपर जाहर छै अगला सोबायतानु गुजरात राखणी मुसकील थी सु म्हे ईश्वर रा प्रताप सु गनीम नु तन कर बैठ्या था सु जायगा छुड़ा ने तीण रो कयु बुड़बुड़ो न हुवो सु म्हेतो ओ सो वो नीबाव रे भरोसे लीयो छो ने नीबाव म्हां सू काऊ काउ करार किया छा सु नीबाव सु रासन छै में तो जीतरो वात मुढा वगरे काढी थी सु कर दी खाई ने उठासु गोर न हुई हमारा अठणें आवणों घणो खराबी हुई खरची रे कसाले करणों लोक अत परेसान हुवो ने गीरानी उठे तक हुई सु रुपया रो सेर अनाज मोलयो नही घास तो मुतलक मोलीयों नहीं आंवा रो पात खाया जोकरा घोडा छा सु पांच रया ने लोक पाला हो गांज पान खायेने रेवा पीण काम गनीम रो छो जोतरे तन दीयों सो म्हारा उत्तन रो लोक छो तरे आवर रही न बाजे परदेशी लोक छो तरे आवरु न रहे तणो पातशाहो काम खराब हो नु ईतरा दीन काम रो मोसर छो वईतरे तो लोक रह्यो ने अवे लोक सो तैयार हुवो छै लोक रो तलव तीस लाख छै सु तलव रो हंगामों छै म्हे लोक बीना नो म्हामु कयु रेहणी नावें न दूसरों कयु अठारी गोररों सो नहीं सु लोक नु जास उपजे आज तीन तीन वरस हुवा उम्मेदवार पातसाही बंदगी करता ने जीण माई मतीज काम आया

आप ईग तरेरी परगानी खाची ने पछे जागीरदार मांणसा ने जो पोहंचाज ने पईसा  
 लेवे छै सु ईग तरे कीणा मांत रहे पांच हजार असवार तो अजमेंर रे जीले रा परगना  
 ग छै हमरा मारवाड़ रा छै सु म्हारे घर में सो क्यु खालसो न रहयो सु देवा ने जागीर  
 उमोद ऊपर चाकरी करता सु जागनु तैयार हुवा छै सु बीना जमीन तो रहा ने आबर  
 न गमावणी आवे म्हां ऊपर ईतरी तसदी हुई न जीरा में महारां खबर न लीवी तरे  
 महासुं काहू लीखणा में आवे हमें ओ सोवो छै जीको खरची न मांगे जागीर न मांगे  
 जागीरदार नु टका देवे मदत न मांगे तोगनु सुंपंजे म्हेँ देस नु कुब करा छै सो श्री  
 दुआका नायजी रे कदमा पधार ने देस पधारा छा म्हतो म्हारी तरफ सु जान माल सु  
 कीतगी यात री कमर न राखी ने ईण सोवा मे सोवाय टोटे क्यु नजर मैं ना आयो छै  
 न अठामु गोर न हुई सो इकटे छै एक काम करें छै तीण री काम ने अटक छै दुचार  
 काम मरीया कर दीखाया तो ही क्यु न हुवो सु परगनां रो लोक उमोद पर रहे सु  
 हमें नीवाव ने कह जो जो लोक री तलब रो हगामों छै सु मदद करें ज्यु लोक सु  
 फैसल हम्रा बीना परगना म्हारा छै तीण रो काम कराया देवे में जाण सा नीवाव म्हा  
 सु बड़ी रियायत कीवी ने ओ सोवो छै खातर आवे तीस ने सुपे ने नीवाव हमार न  
 छड़ायो तो जागीर रो काम खरची आगली कडावणी ने आगा सु पुरकस खरची देवे  
 तर्जात सारी हुजान जान कराव बीजो ने नीवाव री मरजी गरजया सु जो पाढली री  
 छै सु तो माफ कहू जके तो नवाव सारी सरनामं करें ने उडीज चलाया चलसी ने  
 उठे कोई पैदास न छै तीस लाख री जगा नीवाव हमार रो बडोदा बगेरे बतावे सु  
 बाबी अस्ता ने लाख दपया करज कर देणा कण्णे नीठ गले बन्धी छै आगली पैदास  
 मान्नुम छै दोय महीना ने गनीम रो कजीयो छै सु यँण तरे चलाया आवर न रहसी न  
 पछे पांच टका रईयत करने लेमा जागीरदारों नु जागीरी न पहुचसी पछे नीवाव म्हानु  
 कहणी सो गरज न मरगी ईण के या तो सरतांत करे या म्हानु सीख देवे ने राखे तो  
 हाथ पकड़ ने रागे ईण यात रो जतन कर लेज्यो नेम जतन न करसी ने सोवो पीण  
 न छड़ावी तरे जागीरदारों नु टका न पोहचसी तरे तो सु कजीया करसी तीण सु  
 जतन कर लेणों ने देश रा परगना हर तरह कर पांच खया री खरच ने कडावे  
 तर्जात तलास कीया सु आवे सो परवारो चलाय दे ईण सुरत म्हारे सोराब खां कना  
 नु मुलातेग दैग खां बगेरे काठीयों तोण सु हमें मुरत रो मुस्तफोखां रे नावे बहाल  
 करावे ने नीवाव सु कहे जो अमल दख न हुवे तण री नीसा देख्यो मे कर लेस्या  
 ईण काम रो ज्यादा तलास करने पेस पोचावे ने सारी रद बदल नीवाव सु करणों  
 सीताब मरज लीखे हुकम छै समत् १७८६ रा मादवा बदी १ मुकाम खेरडे

## APPENDIX 'B'

Bakht Singh's letter to Madho Singh of Jaipur, written on December 28, giving his attitude towards Holkar. (See Chapter III pp. 77-78). Jodhpur Records.

सिबि श्री महाराजाधिराज श्री माधोसिंह जी सुम्हारो जुमार मालूम हो अपरंच रूको आपरो दसखता आयो बांचीयां खुसहाली हुंई आप जेपुर नु कुब कीयों सो श्री परमेश्वरजी बडी कीरपा कीदी हमे टीके बीराजीया री देगी बघाई आवसी जद अच्छव करसा और पंच आदमी कछवाह साराभेला कराव सो ने घणी मजवूती रखावजां मलहार जी तो पुरा मलारो चाऊ है पीण राज रो जतन छ किती बात री गाफली रखावजो मती और अरोगन खान पान रो जाबतो रखावजां ने सागे राज रो सरनजाम आप रे हाथ रखावजां और चवहाण राजसिंग जी ने मलहार जी कने मेलीयो है सु अरज आप सु करे जीण रो जतन कराव सो ओ तो लीखण रो परोजन नही आपने फीकर है हीज, और भतीज रामसिंग रा आदमी मलहार जी सु हजार पोगाम लगावसी पीण आप सारो जतन रखावसो बलला कावज हमेशा दिरावजो मिति पोप सुदी ११

अपरंच अठे ऐसी सुनवा मे'आवे है मलहार जी म्हारे ने रामसिंग रे सलाह करावने खातर पींडत मेले हे, सो आप या घर रो कहीजो मेल हरगिज होसी नही। म्हा सुनाहा दोनो होय तो मेल री बात म्हे मलहार जी होय ने नवाव री मदद ने तैयार छां ने नही हो तो महारी ने रामसिंग कीणी री मदद करें नही म्हे लड़ लेशा तीण सु ओ जतन आप सु होसी ने ईसरसिंग जी रा मुतसदी ने रजपुत मों कोई चावे छै नही तो आप सु पीण तरे न रेवे कर अरज करसी पीण आपसु सारो मालूम छै ने श्री दीवान जी पीण म्हासु मेहरवानी राखे छै आप सु छानी ने छै तिण सु आप आपरा मनसु बीचार ने करस्यो सो होसी तीण सु ऐसो जतन करावसी मलहार जी बात बीस तालों करावे नही और घणों कठा तक लिखा

दुआ—ज्यु कर रक्षक उसे कर पाल पूतली गोय,  
बीना कहे ही हीत करे हीतु जानो पर सोय ।  
उठारी तरफ सु खातीर खुसाली रखाव मेस  
कहे छै तों फते कर बघाई मेला छा ।

## APPENDIX 'C'

Copy of the *Qualnama* between Jasvant Rao Holkar and Man Singh, January-February, 1804 regarding Rathor help to Holkar against the British in 1804. (See Chapter v p. 166-167 . Arzee Bahi no. 5. p. 106 Jodhpur Record.

श्री राम जी

मोहर

(मोहर में लिख) श्री लक्ष्मी पातशाह तु शाह मुद्दम्द शाह गाजी फिदवी खां मुलखास जसवन्त राव होलकर महाराजधिराज राज राजेश्वर आलीजा बहादुर

माहाराजे श्री महाराज मानसिंग जी समसथान जोधपुर यानी अंगरेज की मसलहत वास्ते राजे श्री सुवेदार जसवन्त राव जी होलकर के सामल होकर थक बीचार मसहलत से बटकु' पोहचाकर आगे भी इसी घराने से चलना ऐसा ठहरण में आया सब्ब समसथानों की तरफ के जवाब सवाल ई प्रमाण समत १८६० माह सवाल मुताबिक मोतो माह मुदी ५

कलम १— अजमेंर हमारी तरफ देना ई रीत तुम्हारा बोलणा तीपर जगा तुमारी तरफ खाली कर देणे मे आवेगी और राजे श्री दोलत राव सीवें इनकी सनद भी आ जावेगी ।

कलम १— सांभर बाबत कोई बात की खेचल न हीणी ऐसा तुम्हारा बोलणा तीपर ईधर से तुम्हारा बोलणे माफक अमल मे आवेगा वा राजे श्री दोलत राव सीवें की सनद आ जावेगी ।

कलम १— समसथान जैपुर व समसथान कोटे याका जबाब सवाल हमारे विद्यमान होणा ऐसा तुम्हारा बोलणा सो या बात हमारे कोफायत की ही है परन्तु समसथान कोटे का जबाब आगे ही होणे मे आया जैपुर का सवाल जबाब तुम्हारे विध्यमान से होयगा तुमने भी जीस बात में ईधर कफायत व मसलहत का उपीयोग होय सो करणा

## APPENDIX 'D'

A letter from Lord William Bentinck, Governor General, to Maharaja Man Singh of Jodhpur, dated 2nd December, 1834. It states that the British Government regarded the Maharaja in a state of probation on the throne of Jodhpur. (Rajputana Agency Office File No. 5—Jodhpur II-1834 pp. 199-202) See chapter VI p. 239.

To

Maha Raja Man Singh

My Esteemed and honored Friend,

I have had the pleasure of receiving your letter, forwarded through Major Alves, expressing your contrition for the offences you have committed against the Supreme Government and asking forgiveness.

My Friend I will not conceal from you that the violations of Treaty of which you had been guilty were so gross and repealed, and your whole line of conduct for a long time past has indicated such a total absence of a proper feeling of respect for the Supreme Government, that I was prepared to adopt a course of proceeding much less conducive to your interests, than that which has actually been adopted still as the result to which Major Alves has arrived in concert with your negotiators is in general accordance with the spirit of forbearance which pervades the Councils of the British Government, and I am assured that you have resolved upon adopting a new line of conduct, I shall not withhold my assent from it.

## MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

There is one thing however in this settlement which has attracted my particular attention I allude to the total absence of all security for the punctual payment of the expenses of the Government; as well as for the due performance of the other conditions agreed to by you. The entire absence of good faith, and the habitual disregard for the wishes of the Supreme Government, which I regret to say have of late characterized all your proceedings, render it impossible for me to be contented with your simple assurance, until by a consistent course of good conduct you shall have entitled yourself to a renewal of my confidence, and I have therefore ordered Major Alves to sequester your share of the Lake and District of Sambar, pending the performance of the conditions to which you have become bound by the recently contracted engagement. I have therefore to request you that you will issue orders to your officers stationed there, peacefully to make over charge of the Lake and District of Sambar to Major Alves, and you may rest assured that as soon as the expenses of the late Armament have been reimbursed and sufficient proof has been furnished of your readiness to cooperate for the suppression of Thuggee, you will be duly reinstated in the possession of them.

You must not forget that you are still regarded by the Supreme Government as being in a state of probation—Your late concessions were as all the world knows, made under the apprehension of immediate danger to yourself, and some time will therefore be required to prove whether this warning has been productive of a change of disposition on your part, without which permanent harmony is impossible—It would be a great satisfaction to me to be able, after the lapse of a few months, to acknowledge that you have indeed reassumed your proper character of a sincere ally and well-wisher to the Supreme Government, and praying that such may be the issue.

I remain etc.

Sd/-

W.C. Bentinck

Fort William

2nd December 1834.

# APPENDIX 'E'

List of villages granted in Jagirs, by the rulers of Marwar to the warriors,

*who fought against the Marathas.*

See Chapter VIII p. 254 (Basta No. 60. Jodhpur Records, Rajasthan Archives, Bikaner).

S. No.	Name of the village, & District.	Name of the recipient	Name of the ruler	Year of grant	Reasons for grant	Rekh per year in rupees	Register No./Serial No.
1	Detha Chhota, Jalore	Uhad Laxmi Das	Abhay Singh	Nov. 18, 1726	Fought against Anand Singh, Rai Singh, hence grant. But it was confirmed permanently in 1728 when he fought against Kanthaji and Pilaji.	3,500	114/20

# MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	Pokran, Phalodi	Champaot Maha Singh Vithaldasot	Abhay Singh	Oct. 26, 1729	Personal service to the ruler, hence grant. It was confirmed perman- ently in between 1731-1733, when the recipient fought against the Mara- thas in Gujrat	92, 725	114/47
3	Chua, Merta	Mertia Sardar Singh	Abhay Singh	1742	Opposed the advance of Malhar Rao and Jayappa Sindia in Jaitaran area in 1741. Grant given by Bakht Singh of Nagor on behalf of Abhay Singh	4,000	104/5
4	Daudsar, Didwana	Mertia Surtan Singh Jagnalot	Bakht Singh	1751	Jagmal Singh died while fighting against the Mara- thas at the battle of Pipar (1750). Grant was given to	2,000	104/71



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5	Badaguna, Didwana	Mertia Sher Singh Keshodasot.	Bakht Singh	1751	his son Surtan Singh. Grant was given for the bravery shown by him at the battle of Ludawas 1750. It was later on con- firmed when he fought against the Marathas at the battle of Ajmer 1752. Died fighting during the siege of Nagor 1754.	6,000	104/80
6	Royandi, Parbatar	Sardar Singh Mertia	Bijay Singh	1753	Berisal Singh Mertia fought for Ram Singh first, later on joined Bakht- Singh to fight against the Marathas in the battle of Ajmer 1752. However,	10,500	257/233

# MARWAR AND THE MARATHAS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
					<p>he again changed the sides and joined Ran- Singh, after the death of Bakht Singh.</p> <p>The new ruler Maha- raja Bijay Singh con- fiscated his <i>Jagir</i> Royandi and bestowed it in 1753 to his bro- ther Sardar Singh, who remained loyal to Bakht Singh and Bijay Singh and fought against the Marathas.</p>		
7 Tolai, Merta		Gchlot (Ranavat) Dhan Singh	Bijay Singh	1755	<p>After the murder of Jayappa at Tausar, the Marathas mur- dered all Rajputs present in his camp including the Mewar envoy Rawat Jait Singh. Bijay Singh bestowed the grant</p>	2,000	257/13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8	Isarnavda, Nagor	Malam Singh Rudpalot	Bijay Singh	1755	to the deceased envoy's brother; Dhan Singh. Malam Singh received severe wounds during the siege of Nagor 1754- 56, hence grant.	—	257/38
9	Chundias, Supka, Dhanketi of Jhadod, Nagor	Mertia Budha Singh Govindasot.	Bjay Singh	1756-7	Bhopal Singh fought against the M. rathas at the battle of Merta (1754) He, and his 25 men died there. His son Budha Singh joined Bijay Singh at Nagor, hence grants.	4,000 4,000 7,000 respectively	257/4
10	Moraro, Merta	Jodha Banney Singh Jagan Nath	Bijay Singh	1756-7	Wounded in the battle of Merta (1754)	5,000	257/21
11	Nund, Jalor	Jaitaot Mukam Singh	Bijay Singh	October 11, (1756)	Wounded in the battle of Merta (1754)	—	257/48

		5	6	7	8
12 Dadvado, Merta	Mertia Lal Singh	Bijay Singh 1760	Lal Singh served Bakht Singh and Bijay Singh against the Marathas.	—	257/14
13 Raside, Jodhipur	Rehmad Ali	Bijay Singh Aug. 9, 1761	When Bijay Singh was moving against the Marathas during the first battle of Merta (1754) one of the wheels of his canon gave way. <sup>†</sup> Rehmad Ali immediately repaired it and the canon was put into the field. In lieu of this service, the village grant was made in 1761.	500	257/250
14 Nibala, Jalor	Jodha Ratanaot Bagh Singh	Bijay Singh 1765	He was on the forefront of the battles fought against the Marathas from	—	257/49

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	Mughdharo, Merta	Mertia Zalim Singh	Bijay Singh	1766-67	1754-1765 A. D. Fought against the Deccanies	3,000	257/20
16	Rambharan Ri-Basni, Merta	Shah Pratap Mal (Oswal)	Bijay Singh	June 18, 1767	Financed the campaigns against the Marathas. At first village Pandua was granted but later on it was resumed and Shah was given this village in its place.	1,000	257/24
17	Bijathal, Merta	Mertia Inder Singh Madhadasor	Bijay Singh	1783	Jawan Singh fought against the Marathas in between, 1754- 1761. Grant was made in the name of his son Inder Singh after his death.	10,000	257/19
18	Jalwana,	Jodha		1787	After the battle of	4,125	257/11

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Merta		Bakhtawar Singh	Bijay Singh		Tunga, the Rathors occupied Ajmer, A Maratha force under Ambaji tried to re- gain it but the defen- ding force, under Kanwar Bhanwar Singh, forced him to withdraw. The Kan- war though won, fell fighting. His father Bakhtawar Singh was given the village in lieu of the service given by Bhanwar Singh.		
19 Bhadari (half) Didwana		Jodha Bhairon Singh	Bijay Singh	1787	Father of Bhairon Singh, Sahib Singh fell fighting at the battle of Tunga, hence the grant of half of the village Baadari was issued.	1.000	257/162

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20	Jaju Basni, (half) Merta	Mertia Bhawani Singh Raimalot	Bijay Singh	1788	He was the son of Thakur Suraj Mal, who fought against the Marathas as an ally of Jawahar Singh of Bharatpur in 1767 He, along with his elder son Lal Singh died while fighting at the battle of Tunga. Hence grant.	1,000	257/12
21	Avadase, Nagor	Champaot Tej Singh	Bijay Singh	1789	Fought against the Marathas	—	257/35
22	Renvat, Merta	Chandaot Laxman Singh	Bijay Singh	1790	Participated in the second battle of Merta (1790).	2,500	257/23
23	Nimkali, Pali	Jodha Ratan Singh	Bijay Singh	1790	Participated in the second battle of Merta (1790).	1,100	257/133

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24 Tolasar <i>Didwana</i>	Jodha Zalim Singh	Bijay Singh	1791	His father Sawai Singh fell fighting in the battle of Merta 1790 hence grant.	500	257/132
25 Ramo, <i>Jalor</i>	Jodha Jagat Singh	Man Singh	1807	Fought in the battle of Merta (1790); wounded while defen- ding Jodhpur against the combined onslau- ght of Marathas and Kachhwahas in 1807 hence grant.	1,500	324/116
26 Megadaud, <i>Merta</i>	Kyam-Khani Moti Khan	Man Singh	1813	Meritorious services to Man Singh during the siege of Jodhpur 1807.	1,000	324/27
27 Jajival, <i>Jodhpur</i>	Rupaot Daulat Singh	Man Singh	June 30, 1821	<i>Thakur</i> Ratan Singh used to come secretly to take the supply of provisions	150	324/320



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
					and grain from the city for the defenders of the Jodhpur fort during its siege in 1807. He was arrested by the Jaipur Maratha force at one time and was imprisoned in the Haveli of Nimaj. However, he escaped secretly but later on in the battle of Borunda he fell fighting. His brother Daulat Singh was granted the village of Kudi but he refused to take it on the ground that it was unfertile. Hence, the new grant of the village Jajival.		

## THE MARATHAS

- : When a fixed amount of produce in kind was levied, it was known as *Gugri*.
- : Agent of *Dewan* or *Shahukar*.
- : *Khalsa* land.
- : Succession tax on the *Jagirdars* the amount of which was equal to three fourth of the year's gross rental value of the estate.
- : Whenever the state resumed the land of a *Jagirdar*, a part of the land was allowed to be retained by *Jagirdar*, free of rent, to be tilled by him or his agents. The land was known as *Jagiri*.
- . Accounts.
- : Offer.
- : Agent or representative.
- 1 : When the assesment was made on the standing crop and the state portion was taken in kind or cash on its strength, it was known as *Kankar-Kunta mode*.
- : State letters sent to the rulers of other states.
- : Dark red.
- : Personal attendants
- : Reserved conveyance.
- : *Khas-Pasban*, personal attendants.
- ; Regional (used in the sense of regional unit of the infantry force).
- ; Narration of historical events, deeds acts.

- Korpalla** : A kind of *Orni*, one corner of which is printed.
- Korpan** : An unbleached cloth.
- Kothar** : Store-house.
- Kurab** : When an official, visitor, or *Jagirdar* paid a visit to the ruler, he honoured him by raising his hand. This gesture was known as *Kurab*. It was only on rare occasions that some of the *Jagirdars* or official received such an honour.
- Kunta** : A mode of the collection of revenue. When the state portion of produce was taken by guess without under-going the process of weighing, it was known as *Kunta*.
- Lahariya** : Marwari *Orni* (used by womenfolk in place of modern *Chuni*), 3 yards by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  yards, having the colour of seawaves with a touch of either green or rosy shade.
- Lata** : A mode of collection of revenue. When the state portion was taken in kind on the spot after duly measured and weighed, it was known as *Lata*.
- Mangli** : Land held by *Brahmins*.
- Misal** : When a ruler conferred the honour to a *Jagirdar* by allowing him to sit by his either side, it was known as *Misal*.
- Mukata** : A mode of assessment of the revenue. When a fixed rate per *bigha* in cash

Rukka	: Letter.
Sardar	: Feudal chief
Sarpech	: A small <i>pagha</i> tied round the turban.
Saropa	: Dress from head to foot.
Sasan	A part of land in <i>Jagir</i> territory, which the ruler would grant for charitable purposes. It was exempted from all kinds of assessment.
Seekh	Taking leave.
Sbahukars	: Businessmen, money lenders, indigenous bankers.
Swar-Kharch	: A tax on the maintenance of the cavalry.
Thakur	: Feudal chief.
Thardar	: Jewelled.
Than	: Nine-length piece cloth.
Tilak	: A sign on the forehead.
Uthantri (of village)	: State resumption of the village, granted to <i>Jagirdars</i> .

## APPENDIX G

# Administration of Marwar from 1724-1843 A. D.

### (A) The position of the ruler

In his state, the Rathor ruler was styled as 'Maharaja'<sup>1</sup> and 'Raj Rajeshwar'.<sup>2</sup> The phrases used in the official seals, such as, 'मानुतेज स्वरूपेण महीमध्ये i. e. who shines with glamour of the sun over the land, and 'महामाया श्री हिंगुलराज प्रसाद द्युवपति महाराजविराज राजराजेश्वर महाराजा' indicate their semi-divine origin.<sup>3</sup> The Maharaja adopted 'Raven' as the In-Signia on his flag, which is known as *Pachranga*, with five colours, yellow, white green, *Bhagwa*, and red. Their family deity is *Chamunda* and they are the followers of *Shaktism*, *Vaisnavism* and *Shaivism*.

In his state, the ruler was the highest executive, legislative and judicial authority. Every government official including *Dewan*, *Pradhan* and other high officials held office during his pleasure.<sup>4</sup> He was the supreme head of the army. All diplo-

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1. The title Maharaja was first used by Jasvant Singh, as bestowed on him by Aurangzib. (Maasir-ul-Umra. Vol. iii. p. 600).
  2. 'Raj-Rajeshwar' was bestowed by Muhammad Shah. (Abhyodaya. Canto vi. vv 11-12.)
  3. A letter from Ajit Singh to Rai Khimsi dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha, vs. 1770/April 21, 1714. MSS. Kharita, Basta no. 99. Jd.
  4. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated June 10, 1839. F. P. July 24, 1839 No. 38.

dealings were made in his name.<sup>1</sup> However, there were limitations to his power. He could not ignore the custom-law and the old usages as enjoined by the age-long practice and precedents of the Hindu *Shastras*.<sup>2</sup>

## B) The position of the feudal aristocracy.

In Marwar the ruling class belonged to the Rathor clan, which was numerically a minority in the population.<sup>3</sup> The eldest members of that clan considered themselves as the sons of the same father,<sup>4</sup> enjoining their patrimony by the same right as the ruler himself. Thus the state, theoretically, did not belong to the ruler, it belonged to the clan as a whole, which was politically represented by the *Jagirdars*. In harmony with the *Sardars*, the ruler was little more than *primus inter pares*.

The rulers used to bestow jagirs in lieu of military service to the state or personal service rendered to them.<sup>5</sup> There were forty nine feudal lords in Marwar during the time of Ajit Singh, who enjoyed jagirs worth rupees 7,000 to 10,000 yearly.<sup>6</sup> The estates of the principal feudatories, during

<sup>1</sup> Rath Bahi no. iii pp. 42-43, Jd.

<sup>2</sup> A letter from Man Singh to G. G. dated received on Oct. 16 1829. F. P. Nov. 7, 1829, No. 5 and to Hawkins dated Oct. 19, 1829 F. P. Nov. 13, 1829 No. 9.

<sup>3</sup> In the entire population of Marwar in 1818-1819, 5/8 were Jats, 2/8 were Rathor Rajputs and the rest were other classes. (Tod. ii p. 1105)

<sup>4</sup> A letter from the chiefs of Marwar to Col. Tod dated 2nd day of the bright-half of Sravana vs. 1878/July 31, 1821. (Tod. I, pp. 228-230)

<sup>5</sup> File concerning the Uthantri of villages no. 22 (DK) Jd.;

<sup>6</sup> Basta nos. 56, 60, 65 and 101 of Jodhpur record contain registers of jagirdars who gave military service to the state and personal service to the ruler. (See Appendix E).

<sup>7</sup> Kundiyad Khyat (Ajit Singh) pp. 13-14. Basta no. 40, Jd.

the period under review, were Ahor, Alniawas, Asop, Auwa, Bagdi, Balunda, Bhakri, Budsa, Chamand, Chandawal, Ghanerao, Harsor, Javlia, Khejurla, Kherwa, Khinwsar, Kuchawan, Marot, Mithri, Nimaj, Pokran, Raipur, Ras, Rian, and Rohat. By 1839, the value of individual estates varied from rupees fifteen thousand to one lac.<sup>1</sup> Two thirds of the territory of Marwar was allotted to the *Jagirdars*, whose total income was about rupees forty lacs.<sup>2</sup>

The *Jagirdars* paid a yearly military cess called *Rekh*, which was supposed to be eight percent of the gross rental value of the estate. They had also to furnish one horseman for every thousand rupees worth of *Rekh*. When a *thakur* died, his heir paid a succession tax, known as *hukamnama*. The amount of it, was equal to three fourths of the years' gross rental value of the estate concerned. Besides these, the *jagirdars* also paid *tagirayat* and *Mutssadi-Kharch* tax,<sup>3</sup> to meet the expenses of civil administration.

The feudal lords had a great influence in the political, military and administrative organisation of the state. Bijay Singh could wage war against the Marathas only after consulting the leading nobles.<sup>4</sup> Their approval was essential for the

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1. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated June 10, 1839. F. P. July 24, 1839. No. 39 (Appendix no. 3).

2. Ibid (Appendix No. 5).

The state (*khalsa*) portion of yield was only 20 lacs of rupees as calculated by Sutherland. (Ibid)

3. Letter dated 11th Zi-l-Kadd, 3 RY/Jan. 1, 1710.

Wakaya report no. 1274. Jp;

Letter dated 7th day of the dark-half of Pausa vi. 1869/Dec. 23, 1811.

File concerning Amal-ji-chithi no. 103 (DK). Jd;

Mertia Khyat vol. ii (granth no 1) p. 1243. (granth no. 13) pp. 1335-36.

Basta no. 101; Melone Khyat (granth no. 39) p. 12. Basta no. 40. Jd;

File concerning Khola (DK) Jd.

4. Bijay Vilas p. 129.

During the period under review when the rulers were strong they adopted certain measures to keep the Jagirdars under their control.<sup>1</sup> They recruited mercenary forces<sup>2</sup> to guard position against Jagirdars possible revolts.<sup>3</sup> If the Jagirdars failed to pay the taxes the Jagirs were confiscated. The ruler reserved to himself the right of conferring Sasan and Doli,<sup>4</sup> within the territory of a Jagirdar. He had also the right of checking his accounts and realising a special tax known as Dana.<sup>5</sup> In order to counter balance the influence of Jagirdars, the rulers of our period created new thakurs from outside Marwar. Among the leading foreign thakurs were Bhati of Khejurla, Parihar of Inda, Bhati of Bhikamkor, and Ranavat (Guihlot) of Tolai.

### (B) Central administration.

The ruler was the head of the state. He was assisted by counsellors, who were nominated by him. The head of the

1. Ibid. No. iii pp. 42-43., No. iv pp. 228-229.
2. A letter from Ajit Singh to Siqdar Dayal Das dated 7th day of the dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1764/March 10, 1710 MSS. Kharita, Basta no. 99. Jd.; A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated June 10, 1839. F. P. July 24, 1839. No. 38.
3. Patta to Rathor Kani Ram Badan Singh Ratan Singhot of Nimaj dated 5th day of the bright-half of Pausa vs. 1798/Dec. 31, 1741. Mertia Khyat Vol. ii (granth 14) pp. 1335-1356. Basta no. 101. Jd.  
Sasan is a part of land in Jagir territory, which the ruler would grant for charitable purposes. It was exempted from all kinds of assessments.  
Doli is the part of land given to a Brahmin by a Jagirdar in his territory. It was exempted from all kinds of assessment.
4. Patta to Rathor Surtan Singh dated 9th day of the dark-half of Bhadrapada vs. 1809/Aug. 22, 1752. Mertia Khyat Vol. ii (granth no. 1) p. 1336. Basta no. 101. Jd.  
Whenever the state audited the accounts of the Jagirdar, a separate tax known as Dana was taken.
5. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated June 10, 1839 F. P. July 24, 1839. No. 38; Tod. ii p. 1120. Parihar Khyat (granth no. 15) pp. 36-27. Basta no. 101. Jd.



Another important counsellor was Pradhan. Though he had no office, yet he had the right to attest by his signature all grants of villages made by the Maharaja.<sup>1</sup>

The other most important counsellor of the state was Bakhshi, who was the officer incharge of army and its establishments. The Dewangiri and the Bakhshi-ship, were almost hereditary. According to Col. Sutherland, there were apparently two or three classes of ministers, who alternately succeeded to the office of the Dewan and the Bakhshi.<sup>2</sup> The Bakhshi's duties seem to be practically the same as those of his namesake under the Mughals. His main task was the disbursement of the salaries to the military officials. He was also incharge of the recruitment of soldiers and led the forces during the time of war.

The post of Vakil was as important as that of Dewan and Bakhshi. He represented the state at the foreign courts. Important Vakils during the period under review were; Amar Singh Bhandari, who represented Abhay Singh at the Mughal court;<sup>3</sup> Vyas Jai Karan, who resided at the court of Sindia at Gwalior in between 1813-1818<sup>4</sup> and Asopa Bishan Ram, who remained with the British resident at Delhi and

1. A letter from Alves to Macnaghten dated Oct. 21, 1838. F. P. Dec. 26, 1838. No. 17.

According to Maharaja Man Singh, the Pradhangiri, though occasionally held by thakcours, was elective and could not be claimed by prescription right by anyone.

(A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated June 10, 1839. F. P. July 24, 1839. No. 33.)

2. A letter from Sutherland to Waddock dated Oct. 20, 1839/F. P. Feb. 24, 1840. No. 34. (Para 16)

3. A letter from Abhay Singh to Bhandari Amar Singh dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Kartika vs. 1757, Oct. 16, 1730. Jd.

4. Letter dated 3th day of the dark-half of Chaitra vs. 1873/March 16, 1813. File concerning Khato-Kitab no. 30 (DK) Jd.

who negotiated, on behalf of Man Singh the Anglo-Rathor treaty of February 1818.<sup>1</sup>

Another important official of the state was *Kiledar*.<sup>2</sup> He was responsible for the security of the fort. The ruler offered this post to the most trust worthy man. *Khichi* Sunder Das, who acted as *Kiledar* of Jodhpur in the times of Ram Singh and Bakht Singh,<sup>3</sup> *Kiledar* Nagji, who was a man of confidence of Man Singh, but later on, on his betrayal put to death<sup>4</sup> were some of the important *Kiledars* during the period under review.

Among other officers, *Dyodidar*<sup>5</sup> was incharge of the guards of palaces of the ruler and he announced the visitors in the presence of the Maharaja. *Purohit*<sup>6</sup> looked after the religious functions of the state. He was also sent to other states on some important state errands. *Dhabhai* and *Khas-Pasban* were personal attachees to the rulers.<sup>7</sup> *Khansama* was incharge of household affairs.<sup>8</sup> *Kotwal* was incharge of the city and

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1. Marwar Khyat Vol. iv pp. 82-84;

T. E. S. Vol. iii pp. 128-129.

2. Mundiya Khyat (Bakht Singh) p. 10. Basta No. 20. Jd.

3. Ibid.

4. Jy. 2;

Hakikat Bahi no. ix p. 44. Jd.

5. A letter from Man Singh to Gomaji Sindia dated 13th day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. 1868/July 6, 1812. AB. No. V 54. Jd.;  
Hakikat Bahi no. X p. 117. Jd.

6. Hath Bahi no. iv pp. 225-229. Jd.

7. Ibid; Mundiya Khyat (Ajit Singh) pp. 16-17. Basta No. 40. Jd.

8. Mundiya Khyat (Ajit Singh) pp. 16-17, (Bakht Singh) p. 10;  
Basta 20; (Man Singh) pp. 22-23. Basta No. 40. Jd.

was a police officer. He held his court at *Kotwali Chabutra*. He kept the keys of the gates of the city under his care.<sup>1</sup>

Maharaja Bakht Singh created a new post of *Piyad Bakhshi*. The officer incharge of the department was responsible for the disbursement of the pay of civil officers, like *Ahalkars*, *Mutssadis*, *Karbaris* and *Navitosandas*.<sup>2</sup> The offices of *Daftar Dastari*, *Daftar Mir-Munshi* and *Jawahar-Khana* formed important places in the administration. All the state records, documents, *Kharitas* received from the other states and copies of *Kharitas* sent to other states and different *Bahis* (*Hakikat*, *Hath-Arzee*, *Hawala*, *Sayer*, *Parwana*, *Kharita*, etc.) were preserved in *Daftar Dastari*.<sup>3</sup> The persian records were preserved in *Daftar-Mir-Munshi*.<sup>4</sup> *Jawahar-Khana* was located in the fort and all state valuables jewels, ornaments etc. were stored in this department.<sup>5</sup> There was a regular postal system in the state. The officer incharge of the post was known as *Mirda*.<sup>6</sup>

There were several other departments attached to the Royal household. *Dholian-Ka-Kothar* was personal private

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1. *Mundiyat Khyat* (Bakht Singh) p. 10. Basta No. 20. Jd;  
*Bijay Vilas* p. 19. vv. 40.;  
*Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali*. p. 320. vv. 150-161.
  2. *Hath Bahi* no. iv pp. 225-229. Jd;  
File concerning *Jama-Kharch* no. 43. (DK) Jd;  
A.R.M. p. 777.  
*Navitosandas* were accounts clerks.
  3. A letter from Ludlow to Sutherland dated Feb 9, 1843. p. 292. R. A. O.  
14A. Jod. ix-1843.
  4. A.R.M. p. 772.
  5. File concerning *Jama-Kharch* no. 43. (DK) Jd;  
A.R.M. p. 772.
  6. *Mundiyat Khyat* (Ajit Singh) p. 17-18. Basta no. 40. Jd;  
A.R.M. pp. 603-609.

store house under *Huzur-Dewan*. The personal property including swords, shields, bed sheets etc. were deposited in it. Copies and original documents, letters etc. were also deposited in this office.<sup>1</sup> The department of provision was known as *Ann-Ka-Kothar*. The officials of the department were *Dewani Musraf*, *Potdar* and *Navitosanda*.<sup>2</sup> There were *Abdarkhana* (department of water), *Rasovada* (Royal Kitchen), *Bagan-Ka-Kothar* (department of garden) *Sej-Khana* (department of equipment), *Farashkhana* (department of furniture and camp equipment) and *Zenani-dyodi* (department of harem-guard).<sup>3</sup>

#### (D) District administration.

The territory of Marwar was divided into *paraganas*. During the times of Abhay Singh and Bakht Singh, the number of *paraganas* was eighteen.<sup>4</sup> With the annexation of Godwad in the year 1770, the *paraganas* were re-adjusted, totalling into twenty three, viz. Bali, Bilara, Didwana, Jalor, Jaitaran, Jasvantpura, Jasvantgarh, Jodhpur, Marot Merta, Nagor, Nawa, Pachhadra, Pali, Parbatsar, Phalodi, Sambhar, Sanchor, Sankda, Shergarh, Shiva, Siwana and Sojat.<sup>5</sup>

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1. Letter dated 3rd day of the dark-half of first Jyeshtha vs. 1876/May 1. 1820. File concerning Goda and Saman list. no. 37. (DK) Jd.  
Dholian is a cot made of Nivar.

2. Letter dated 13th day of the dark-half of Pausha vs. 1902/Jan. 1843. File concerning Ghoda and Saman list no. 37. (DK) Jd.

3. 'Society and Culture of Rajasthan as revealed from the Byav Bahi of Dastary Record of Jodhpur' article by G. N. Sharma, J. I. M. Vol. xxxiv pt. I. p. 72.

4. Mss. Mansabs (Abhay Singh and Bakht Singh) Basta no. 99. Jd.

5. Hath Bahi no. iv pp. 55-57. Jd.  
A.R.M. pp. 6-7.

Each *paragana* was looked after by a *Hakim*, who was appointed by the ruler after due consultation with the *Dewan*. The *Hakims* acted as revenue officers, magistrates and judicial authorities. They submitted their annual report of accounts to the ruler. The decisions from their courts were subject to revision in case of appeal to the ruler. They had no right to spend more than the fixed budget allotted to them. They were also responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the *paraganas*.<sup>1</sup>

*Hakims* were responsible for the collection of the dues from *Jagirdars*.<sup>2</sup> Custom and excise duties were also deposited in the *paragana Katcheris*,<sup>3</sup> which served as the seats of *Hakims*.<sup>4</sup> They appointed *amils*,<sup>5</sup> who were incharge of customs and excise and *navitosandas*,<sup>6</sup> who acted as clerks in the office, but the power to transfer these officials was vested in the *Dewan*.<sup>7</sup> Whenever the state confiscated the *jagir* of any feudal lord, the government asked the *Hakim* to take control of that *jagir*.<sup>8</sup>

Besides *amils*, the other district officers were *Qanungo*,<sup>9</sup>

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1. Ibid.

2. Letter dated 7th day of the dark-half of Pausha vs. 1869/Dec. 23, 1814; (File concerning Amal-Ki-Chitti no. 105. (DK) Jd.)

3. Hath Bahi no. iv pp. 225-229.

4. Ijara file no. 110. (DK) Jd.

5. PRC. viii LN. 132. p. 177.

Letter from Mehta Bijay Mal to Mehta Sardar Mal, *Hakim* of Nagar. File concerning Intjami Siga, no. 38. (DK) Jd.

6. Ibid.

7. Letter dated 10th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. Nil. (addressed to *Hakim* of Godwad) File concerning Uthantri of villages no. 22 (DK) Jd.

8. A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 8th day of the dark-half of Karttika vs. 1343, Nov. 3, 1791. AB. no. iv pp. 47-48. Jd.

9. Tod. vol. ii p. 1115.

who looked after the revenue records of the district, *Kanwari*<sup>1</sup> who was responsible for guarding the cultivation, *Shahnas*<sup>2</sup> and *Chowaris*.<sup>3</sup> The responsibility of maintaining law and order in the district towns was that of *Kotwal*. He was mainly a police officer but also acted as a judicial authority, whenever required by the *Hakims*. He collected special cesses known as *Kotwali-Ki-Paidais* (income from *Kotwali*) from the business community of the towns. He maintained the registers of the houses and issued *pattas* of each house in his jurisdiction.<sup>4</sup>

The *paraganas* were subdivided into *tehsils* or *talukas*, with a *thanedar* at the head of each of them. The *thanedar* was a police and revenue officer under the *Hakims*. The *tehsils* were sub-divided into villages. Each village had a *Panchayat* of its own. *Chowdhri* acted as government representative in the villages.<sup>5</sup>

### (E) Military Administration.

During the earlier period of our study the military strength of the Rathor rulers depended on the supply of warriors

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1. Ibid.
  2. Hath Bahi no. iii p. 42-Jd.;  
Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali. p. 185. VV. 27.
  3. File concerning Jama-Kharch No. 44 (DK) Jd.;  
File concerning Sayer No. 76. (DK) Jd.;  
Rathor Daneshwar Vamshavali p. 408. VV. 665;  
A. R. M. pp. 709-710,
  4. Hath Bahi Vol. iii p. 42. Jd.;  
Tatodi Khyat p. 6. Basta No. 40. Jd.;  
Tod, ii pp. 1112-1114;  
'Havala and Deodhi-Bahis of Marwar' article by Dr. G. N. Sharma, published in Uttar-Patrika 1961.
  5. Mundiyyad Khyat (Jasvant Singh) p. 176. Basta No. 20. Jd.  
Nensi Khyat Vol. I p. 114;  
Jasvant Singh before proceeding to Gujrat in 1659, collected a force of 5,000. He paid eight annas to aswar and four annas to Pyadal,  
Mundiyyad Khyat (Ajit Singh-granth no. 27) pp. 23-24, 29, 30-34. Basta no. 40. Jd.

from the *jagirdars*. Each *jagirdar* had to contribute a fixed number of men. The armies of Jasvant Singh and Ajit Singh were composed mainly of the Rajputs such as Bhatias, Mandeas, Paraots, Jaimalaots, Udaots, Mertias, Jodhas, Champaots and Kumpaots. The army was divided into *Sawars* (cavalry men), *pyadal* (infantry), charriots, camel-corp and artillery. Whenever the army was on march, *Charans*, *Kamdars* (*Kayasthas* and *Banias*) Brahmins, *Khas-Pasban* camel-carriers, and pay master accompanied it.<sup>1</sup>

The army also consisted of mercenary recruits, viz. Rohillas, Afghans, Sindis and Purbias, armed with muskets and matchlocks.<sup>2</sup> In addition to it; there was in Marwar a brigade of 'Monastic militants' or 'fighting *Sanyasis*' mainly *Nagas*, and *Dadu-panthi sadhus*.<sup>3</sup>

Towards the end of Man Singh's reign, the military strength of the state was greatly reduced. The British raised the Jodhpur legion in 1835 and the state contributed rupees 1,15,000 a year, towards its maintenance. It was stationed at Erinpura. The legion consisted of 254 cavalry, 739 infantry, 31 artillery and 222 strong Bhil company totalling 1246. After the death of Man Singh the British allowed the state to have a little force. It consisted of 5,850 infantry and 2,680 cavalry in addition to the strength of the feudatories.<sup>4</sup>

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1. Hath Bahi no. iii pp. 42-43., No. iv pp. 228-229.,  
Bijay Vilas pp. 119 vv. 36.

2. A letter from Gyan Mal to Nirbhaya Ram dated 4th day of the bright half of Phalguna vs. 1842/March 4, 1784. A. B. No. iv p. 274. Jd.

3. Wilson vol. viii p. 314;  
T. E. S. Vol. iii p. 135;  
Thornton Vol. ii p. 327.

4. Hath Bahi no. iv pp. 229. Jd.

## (F) Justice and law.

The ruler was the source and fountain of justice in Marwar. He was also the highest court of appeal. The power of life sentence was the Royal prerogative. At the capital there was a court known as *Karkhana Adalat*, administered by four judges. Important cases were reviewed by the ruler himself with the assistance of four judges, the *Dewan* and the *Bakhshi*.<sup>1</sup>

The *Hakims*, with the help of *Karkuns* and *Ijlasnavis*, conducted the administration of justice at district level. In towns, it was done by *Kotwal* with the help of *Izlasnavis*. The appeals from these courts were sent to *Karkhana Adalat*. The culprit *Sanyasis* were tried by special courts, presided over by the *purohit*, assisted by four judges. The cases of *Naths* were decided by *Ayasji Maharaj* of *Maha-mandir*.<sup>2</sup>

The *Jagirdars* had also some judicial powers, but appeals against their decisions were taken to the *Karkhana Adalat* at Jodhpur.<sup>3</sup> At the village level, the *panchayats* formed a court and decided the local cases. If the parties were dissatisfied, appeals were lodged with the *Hakims* of the district concerned or the ruler.<sup>4</sup> Arbitration and compromises were generally resorted in the villages.<sup>5</sup> If there was any breach of

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1. Hath Bahi no. iv pp. 229 Jd.

2. Ibid. pp. 57-58, 229;  
File concerning Sayer no. 76. (DK) Jd,

3. Letter from Mahajans of Balunda to the Maharaja dated 3rd day of the dark-half of Ashadha vs. nil. Arzee file no. 6. (DK) Jd;  
A letter from Surat Ram to Thakur Ratan Singh dated 8th day of the dark-half of Vaisaka vi. 1880/April 21, 1824. file concerning Khato-Kitab no. 28. (DK) Jd

4. Hath Bahi no. iv p. 42. Jd.

5. Ibid.



discipline in the army, the captain of the concerned contingent would present the criminal before a special court.<sup>1</sup>

Mutilation as a punishment seems to have been abolished.<sup>2</sup> The punishments were mild. In case of a theft fine was levied. The loss was compensated in terms of the payment of cash money.<sup>3</sup> Special criminals were sent to jails, known as *Taihhkhana*, where they died of suffocation. Political prisoners were imprisoned in the *Salimkot* (a special place) in the fort.<sup>4</sup>

### (G) Revenue and Taxation.

The head of the revenue department of the state was the *Dewan*. He supervised the collections from *Havala* and *Khalsa* lands. The revenue of these lands was collected by his own agents known as *Havaladar*<sup>5</sup> or *Gumastha*.<sup>6</sup> The land revenue was also collected by giving it on *ijaras*.<sup>7</sup> The other main sources of the state revenue were the collections from *paraganas* and *tehsils*, tax on *jagiri* land, custom and excise duties.<sup>8</sup>

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1. Mucharka of Rasaldar of Kheda of Pardeshis dated 10th day of the bright-half of Margsirsha vs. 1887/Nov. 25, 1830, Hath Bahi no. iv. Jd.
  2. Sutherland's report dated Aug. 7. 1847 (No. 845) p. 30.
  3. A letter from Mehta Bijay Mal to the officials of Nawa Katcheri dated nil Arzee file no. 5. (DK) Jd.
  4. A.R.M. pp. 716.
  5. Letter dated 9th day of Pausha vs. nil. file concerning Ijaras no. 110. (DK) Jd.
  6. Letter dated 22 Rabbi-ul-akhir 2RY/April 27, 1714 Jp.
  7. A letter from Bakht Singh to Amar Singh dated 5th day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1792/Dec. 8. 1735  
Mss. Kharita. Basta no. 99. Jd.
  8. Hath Bahi no. i pp. 6-7;  
File concerning Jama-Kharch no 43. (DK) Jd.

Agriculture formed the most important element in the economic life of the people. The lands of a village, partially or wholly, were categorised into *Bapi*, *Mangli Hasili*, *Sasan*, *Doli*, *Pasaita*, *Jagiri*, and *Bhum*. No uniform system of assessment prevailed in Marwar. It varied from district to district, but one third of the actual produce was the prevailing rate. The different modes of assessments were *Lata*, *Kunta*, *Kankar Kunta*, *Mukata*, *Bighori* and *Gugri*.<sup>1</sup> The land

- 
1. *Bapi* was land of ancestral inheritance from Bap (father).  
*Mangli* was held by Brahmins.  
*Hasili* was Khalsa land.  
*Sasan* was a part of land in the jagir territory which the ruler would grant for charitable purposes and such lands were exempted from all kinds of assessments.  
*Doli* was given to Brahmins by jagirdars or by the State in the jagir territory. It was also exempted from assessments.  
*Pusaita*, was rent free land given to the employees of the jagirdars or State and were resumable.  
*Jagiri*. Whenever the state resumed the land of a jagirdar, a part of the land was allowed to be retained by the jagirdar, free of rent, to be tilled by him or by his agents, it was known as jagiri land.  
*Bhum*. The land given to a Bhomiya in lieu of service to the State and the ruler.  
*Lata*. When the state portion was taken in kind on the spot, after duly measured and weighed, it was known as Lata.  
*Kunta*. The state portion of the produce was taken by guess without undergoing the process of weighing or measurement.  
*Kankar-Kunta*. The total amount of the harvest was calculated while the crops were standing and the State portion was taken in kind or cash on the strength of the calculation. The mode was known as Kankar-Kunta.  
*Mukata*. A fixed rate per Bigha in cash was realised from the cultivators. It was known as Mukata.  
*Bighori*. Under this, a fixed rate per Bigha after due measurement, was levied in cash or kind.  
*Gugri*. When a fixed amount of produce in kind was levied it was known as Gugri.  
Hath Bahi no. iv pp. 94-97. Jd.;  
A letter from Bijay Singh to Mahadaji dated 14th day of the dark-half of Bhadrpada vs. 1835/Aug. 21, 1778. A. B. No. iv p. 37. Jd.;  
Mertia Khyat. Vol. ii pp. 1355-56. Basta no. 101 Jd.;  
A. R. M. pp. 353-355.

yield in Marwar was highly affected by famines, which traditions record that it followed in every third year.<sup>1</sup>

One of the main sources of state revenue was from custom duties. In some areas, the collection of customs by *Ijaras* was prevalent. The right of *Ijara* custom collection was given to the highest bidder at the time of its auction.<sup>2</sup> Elsewhere, the government collected it through the *Daroga* of customs, who worked under *paragana Hakims*.<sup>3</sup> The taxable items were camels, horses, oxen, sheep, hides, horns, tanning barks, elephant teeth, broad clothes, silk, chintz, sandal wood, camphor, musk, dyes, opium and other drugs, spices, dates, gumarabic, saltpotash, cocoanuts, dyed blankets, copper, iron and borax.<sup>4</sup>

There were many other taxes also, as *Barad*, *Ghasmari*, *Gharbab*, *Swarkharch*, *Dana* and *Faujbal*.<sup>5</sup> Sutherland

- 
1. PRC xiv 139;  
Mundiyad Khyat (Man Singh) pp. 105-108. Basta no. 40 Jd.;  
The worst recorded famine was in 1810-1812, when grain was sold at seven seers a rupee. It led to the immigration of the inhabitants and cattle to neighbouring areas. (Ibid).
  2. File concerning Jama-Kharch No. 43. (DK) Jd.;  
Hath Bahi No. 1 pp. 6-7. Jd.;  
File concerning Sayer No. 76; (DK) Jd.;  
Khas-Rukka and Parwana Bahi no. 1 p. 76. Jd.
  3. File concerning Jama-Kharch No. 43. (DK) Jd.;  
Hath Bahi No. 1 pp. 6-7. Jd.;  
File concerning Sayer No. 76. (DK) Jd.;  
Khas-Rukka and Parwana Bahi no. 1 p. 76. Jd.
  4. Tod. ii p. 107;  
Thorton ii p. 324.
  5. Barad was tax on different callings (A letter from Mahadaji to Bijay Singh dated 1st day of the bright-half of Pausa vs. 1847/Jan. 5. 1791. Pf. vi LN. 57. Jd.;  
Ghasmari was grazing tax. (Rathor Daneshwar Vamshvali p. 175. vv. 311)  
Gharbab was house tax (Khas-Rukka to Baje Rao dated 6th day of the

reports of the prevalence of a tax on the celebration of marriages.<sup>1</sup>

The salt lakes of Sambhar, Didwana, Pachbhadra and Nawa also yielded a large revenue to the State. The *Dholian-Ka-Kothar* records file concerning *Jama-Kharch* vide dated November 20, 1800.<sup>2</sup> records that the excise income of the year 1799 from salt lakes was as such: From Pachbhadra, it was rupees 1,00,000; from Didwana, it was rupees 50,000, from Nawa, it was rupees 70,000 and from Sambhar, it was 69,750 rupees. Sutherland in his report in 1847 refers to the yield of Sambhar to three lacs rupees per annum.<sup>3</sup>

At the time of need, other means to raise the income of the State were also adopted. The *Kotwal* would raise money from the money lenders of the town. Torrens reported to Colebrooke on August 9, 1828 that the *Sarrafs* of Jodhpur had shut up their shops as the *Kotwal* demanded rupees twenty thousand and maltreated them. Man Singh sold the office of *Daftari* for rupees 6,000 in 1842.<sup>5</sup> The state also ordered the officials, *Mahajans* and other money lending people to pay

dark-half of Asvina vs. 1893/Oct. 2. 1836. A.B. No. V p. 74. Jd.)  
Swarkharch was tax on the maintenance of cavalry (F. P. Feb. 28, 1842 No. 22)

Dana tax was levied from jagirdars, when the State checked their accounts, (Mertia Khyat Vol. ii (granth no. 1) p. 1356. Basta no. 101. Jd.)  
Faujbal-the tax was levied from the frontier villages. (Hath Bahi no. iv pp. 94-97 Jd.)

1. Sutherlands' report dated August 7, 1847 No. 845. p. 30.
2. File concerning *Jama-Kharch* No. 43. (DK) Jd.
3. Sutherland's report dated August 7, 1847. 845. p. 11.
4. A letter from Torrens to Colebrooke dated August 9, 1828 F. P. September 5, 1828. No. 20.
5. A letter from Ludlow to Sutherland dated February 9, 1843. R.A.O. 14-A Jod. ix 1843, p. 292.

the state bills.<sup>1</sup> *Oswal Mahajans* were indigenous bankers of the state.<sup>2</sup> Sometime they migrated to the eastern part of India and became '*Jagatseths*'<sup>3</sup>

The State revenues, yielded through different sources, are sometimes mentioned in contemporary records. In 1805, Charles Metcalfe estimated these revenues to rupees fifty lacs a year.<sup>4</sup> The file concerning *Jama-Kharch* vide letter dated 5th day of the dark-half of *Karttika* vs. 1884/October 25, 1827, records the revenue of the State for the months from July to October, 1827, to the amount of rupees 4,74,299 and six annas.<sup>5</sup> According to Sutherland, when he wrote on June 10, 1839<sup>6</sup> the State yielded 20 lacs rupees a year. The total revenue, as Wilson refers,<sup>7</sup> might be estimated at rupees 37 lacs a year.

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1. A letter from Bijay Singh to Bohras of Nandwana dated 30th day of the dark-half of Pausha vs. 1823/Dec. 31, 1766. A. B. No. iv. p. 286. Jd.; File concerning *Jama-Kharch* no. 44 (DK) Jd.
2. A letter from Macnaghten to Alves dated Oct. 9, 1838. F.P. Jan. 23. 1839 No. 27; File concerning *Jama Kharch* no. 44. (DK) Jd.
3. K. K. Datta. p. 172.  
(Dr. Datta refers to a family of Hira Nand Shahu; migrating from Marwar to Bengal and Bihar for banking purposes. It became the family of *Jagatseths*).
4. Hamilton Vol. ii p. 60.
5. File concerning *Jama-Kharch* no. 44. (DK) Jd.
6. (Appendix No. 57) F. P. July 24, 1839, No. 38.
7. Wilson Vol. viii p. 447.

# ERRATA

Page	Line	Incorrect	Correct
3	11	Mouros, <sup>3</sup>	Mouros. <sup>3</sup>
"	17	Dilkhusha	Dilkusha
"	18	travellers <sup>4</sup>	travellers. <sup>6</sup>
10	1ff.	Akhdarat	Akhbarat
"	2ff.	Jedhe Sakivali	Jedhe Sakavali
"	"	tbe year	the year
11	8	Dillir khan	Dilir khan
15	2ff.	Ahkharat	Akhbarat
16	ff. last but one	Ibid	7. Ibid
18	16	Marhathes	Marathas
19	2ff. Line no. 9	He the Emperor	he (the Emperor)
"	" last line	8iwana	Siwana
29	12 and 16	Jai Singh	Jay Singh
37	Top heading	Rathore	Rathor
41	(D)	Consequences	Consequences
"	Last line	Palaji	Pilaji
47	7	to sent	to send
52	Last line	cy	ch
57	1	recogniscd	recognised
58	5	on hin the	on him the
"	ff1	Compaigh	Campaign
62	9	'undestanding	'understanding
65	1	Maho Singh	Madho Singh
66	7	Scroching	Scorching
67	2	Capitel	Capital
"	4 from below	to bringh	to bring
68	3 ff	Madho 8ingh	Madho Singh

Page	Line	Incorrect	Correct
68	6 ff third line	Dafter	Daftar
71	3 from below	Afihgans	Afgans.
72	7 ff	Dewaa	Dewan
73	5 ff Second line	Facing page 103	facing page 72
74	7 ff fifth line	Bijar vilas	Bijay vilas
77	Last but one	falicitetion	felicitation.
84	6ff Sixth line	Provocation,	Provocation.
„	„ Last line	Facing page 297	Facing page 231
90	2 ff	Facing page 103	Facing page 72
93	10	erritory	territory
98	17	freindship	friendship
103	2	in time. no	in time, no
106	10	again's tthe	against the
„	12	Soveregnty	Sovereignty
121	(1)	Sinda	Sindia
124	ff Second line	144	123
„	1 ff Eighth line	facing page 146	facing page 125
126	1 ff Tenth line	facing page 147	facing page 125
149	last but one line	Corces	forces
164	7	Vyas Suraj Nath	Ayas Surat Nath
166	2-3	Vyas Surath Nath	Ayas Surat Nath
169	third from below	Vyas Bin Nath	Ayas Bhimnath
187	6 from below	Repuest	Request
193	2	Fiendly	Friendly
		March 180,	March 1805,
196	2 from below	Jadhpur	Jodhpur
211	10	Jajappa	Jayappa.
225	7	Jaswan	Jasvant
231	3ff	chhatri facing	chhatri facing
„		page v	page 231
233	17	Jaswant	Jasvant
242	4 from below	A kharias	A kharita
258	4	pp. 53	p. 47
260	3	pp. 77-78	p. 67
261	4	p. 166-167	pp. 141-142
263	6	p. 239	p. 201
265	3	chapter VIII p 254	Chapter VII p. 210
288	3 from below	Vyas jai karan	Vyas Jaskaran

# INDEX

ABA CHITNIS 121, 129, 246, 247

Abdulla Khan 23, 25

Abhaya Karan 48

Abhay Singh 26, 27, 29, 30-33,

36, 39-64, 215, 219, 225,

226, 234, 238, 241, 243,

245, 249, 250, 258, 265,

266, 281, 291

Achut Ganesh, Dewan 97

Afganistan 137, 202

Afzal Khan 5

Agra 55, 65, 233, 236, 237

Ahdayabad 104, 227, 241

Ahmadabad 1, 3, 13, 17, 33,

36, 38, 41, 45, 47-50,

225, 234, 237, 250

Ahmadnagar 17, 244

Ahmadshah Abdali

76, 86, 92, 236, 243

Ahmadshah (Emperor)

50, 76, 77

Ahor 284

Ajab Singh Bhandari 46

Ajimulla Khan 41

Ajit Singh 13, 19-26, 40,

2332-36, 243, 244, 250,

294

Ajmer 12, 13, 14, 19, 24,

25, 49, 60, 61, 65, 66,

72, 73, 76, 79, 80, 82,

88-90, 96-98, 105, 112,

116, 119, 121, 122,

124, 128, 131, 132, 136,

141, 147, 150, 158, 159,

183-186, 190, 195, 198-

201, 207, 230, 240, 241,

242, 244, 251, 252, 267, 272.

Akbar 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18,

19, 37, 236, 237, 250

Akbarpur 13

Akhay Chand Mehta

164, 165, 167, 176, 195

Akhay Raj 169, 170, 194,

244, 252

Akolee 193, 194, 208, 216

Alakaran, Charan 97

Alexander Seton 152

Ali Bahadur 120, 123, 124, 125

Ali Muhmad Khan 235

Allahbad 77, 81

Alniawas 63, 123, 147, 284

Alves, Major 188, 200, 203,

204, 263, 264

Alwar 114, 244

Amar Singh Bhandari 243-245,

258, 288

Amar Singh Rathor 41, 43

Ambaji Ingle 104, 110, 113,



114, 116, 135, 136, 138,  
 139, 153, 154, 230, 244,  
 246, 272  
 Ambika Bai 188  
 Amber 7, 16  
 Amia Nagarchi 63  
 Amir Khan 147, 148, 149, 151,  
 153-171, 175, 214, 246, 247  
 Amritsar 178  
 Anand Rao Bable 93, 246  
 Anand Rao Panwar 53  
 Anand Singh 26-28, 30-32, 265  
 Annaji Datta 15  
 Antaji Mankeshwar 74, 77,  
 85, 87, 91  
 Antaji Pandit 227, 228  
 Anurudha Singh, Khangaraot  
 86, 87  
 Appa Sahib 177-192, 198, 203,  
 218, 246  
 Apte D. V. 240  
 Arabia 37  
 Ari Singh, Maharana  
 99-102, 283  
 Asad Khan 7  
 Asop 63, 212, 284  
 Assaye 141  
 Assore 196  
 Auckland, Lord 202  
 Aurangabad 6, 8, 9, 10, 16  
 Aurangzib 1, 12, 13, 14, 17,  
 20, 21, 37, 232, 233, 236,  
 243

Avadse 273  
 Awa 63, 196, 197, 212, 284,  
 285.  
 Ayasji Maharaj 146, 231, 295  
 BABAR 233, 234  
 Babia Mayaji 142  
 Babji Bapuji 4  
 Babu Rao 96  
 Badaguna 267  
 Badan Singh Rathor 104  
 Badmer 201  
 Bagdi 284, 285  
 Bagh Singh 100  
 Bagh Singh Jodha 270  
 Baglana 13, 38  
 Bagru 29, 64  
 Bahadur Shah 21  
 Bahadur Singh 233, 256  
 Bahadur Singh, Kishangarh  
 79, 86  
 Baija Bai 193  
 Baji Bhiw Rao 55  
 Baji Krishna 103  
 Baji Rao 35, 36-45, 53, 178,  
 215, 225, 230, 234, 239  
 Bakat Singh 26, 27, 30, 31,  
 50 54, 55, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62  
 64, 65, 67-69, 72-76,  
 219, 225, 235, 242, 249,  
 250, 260, 266-268, 270,  
 289, 290, 291  
 Bakhtawarmal, Dewan 86, 87  
 Bakhtawar Singh (Umbaha) 164  
 Bakhtawar Singh Jodha 272

Bala Rao Ingle 158, 159  
 Balaji Baji Rao 56  
 Balaji Vishwanath 23, 235  
 Balunda 200, 284  
 Balwant Rao 141, 226  
 Balwant Sadashiv Aswalkar 124  
 Banda 203, 204  
 Bankabai 189  
 Banney Singh Jodha 269  
 Banswara 13  
 Bapuji Sindia 153-156, 159,  
 161, 167-169, 171, 214,  
 221  
 Barhat Bishan Singh 249  
 Barkat Ali 176  
 Baroda 35, 42, 43, 45, 47, 48,  
 234, 235  
 Baroda, Gaikwar 203  
 Beharji Takpir 228  
 Bengal 4  
 Berar 10, 37  
 Berisal Singh Mehta 267  
 Bernier 3  
 Bhadrajan 63  
 Bhairon Singh Jodha 272  
 Bhakri 284  
 Bhamolao 53, 55  
 Bhandari Raghunath 26  
 Bhawar Singh s/o  
 Bakhtawar Singh 272  
 Bharatpur 273  
 Bhasundi 143, 217  
 Bhawalpur 181, 188  
 Bhawani Singh Mertia 272

Bhawani Das Bhandari 129  
 Bhikamkor 286  
 Bhilpur 43, 45  
 Bhima Bai 142, 239  
 Bhimnath 186, 283  
 Bhim Raj, Bakshi 108, 113,  
 117, 122, 124, 125, 129.  
 Bhim Sen 2, 235  
 Bhim Singh 134-141, 147, 214,  
 230, 244, 247  
 Bhinmal 39  
 Bhinai 105, 131  
 Bhopal 56, 203  
 Bhopal Singh 269  
 Bidar 17  
 Bijathal 271  
 Bijay Bharti Goswami 83  
 Bijay Raj Bhandari 54  
 Bijay Singh 41, 43, 73, 76-100,  
 102, 103, 104, 105, 134,  
 193, 194, 211, 213-215,  
 218, 220-225, 226, 227,  
 229, 230, 235, 236, 238-  
 244, 246-249, 267, 268,  
 270-274, 284.  
 Bikaner 49, 50, 58, 62, 79, 86,  
 87, 112, 122, 149, 156,  
 182, 184, 190, 197, 203,  
 235, 243, 248.  
 Bilara 162, 217, 291  
 Bishana Ram Asopa 171, 172,  
 288  
 Bishanu Ram Byas 174  
 Bolan 222  
 Borunda 275

Britain 202  
 Broach 37  
 Budh Singh 129, 220  
 Budh Singh s/o  
 Bhopal Singh 269  
 Budsa 284  
 Bundel Khan 85  
 Bundi 49, 52, 54, 78, 86, 112,  
 161, 195, 242  
 Burhanpur 8, 11, 14  
 CALCUTTA 234, 235  
 Calla, Sukh Ram 127  
 Capt. Rohan 125  
 Carnatik 77  
 Cavendish 183, 184  
 Champaner 34, 48  
 Champaot Bahadur Singh 140  
 Chamunda 284  
 Chanda Chakar 63  
 Chandawal 86  
 Chander Rao More 5  
 Chandol 86  
 Chappan 13  
 Charles Theo Philus 174  
 Chatter Singh 100, 104, 172,  
 174, 175, 252  
 Chenpura 142, 145, 239  
 Chimnaji, Appji 33-35, 42  
 Chimnaji, Bapuji 5  
 Chiru 16  
 Chua 266  
 Chundias 269  
 Cole Brooke 179, 183, 299  
 Cosme De-Guarda 3  
 DABHADE 42, 43, 45

Dabhol 35, 43, 45, 47, 225  
 Dadvado 270  
 Dakore 46, 245.  
 Damoji Gaikwar 48  
 Dan Singh 216  
 Dangawas 123-125, 144, 162,  
 212, 225  
 Darashukoh 1  
 Dattaji Sindia 78, 85, 88, 89, 93  
 Datta Ram 163  
 Daudsar 266  
 Daulatpura 87  
 Daulatram Haldia 107  
 Daulat Rao Sindia 113, 136,  
 141, 143, 153, 157, 159,  
 161, 193, 214, 215, 218,  
 229, 246, 247  
 Daulat Singh Rupaot 274, 275  
 Dausa 109  
 Deboigne 115, 120-126, 211,  
 240  
 Degana 216  
 Delhi 23, 24, 27, 38, 49, 53,  
 58, 77, 78, 81, 89, 91, 118,  
 171, 172, 182, 186, 208,  
 235, 243, 244, 251, 288  
 Deorai 1, 13  
 Desnok 180  
 Desuri 122  
 Detha Chhota 265  
 Devi Singh, Champaot 78  
 Dhan Raj 116, 117, 132  
 Dhan Singh 135, 164, 228  
 Dhan Singh Gahlot 268, 269  
 Dhanaji Jadav 17, 20

Dhankoti 269	Gangva 216
Dhonkal Singh 148-157, 176, 185, 186, 197, 200, 204, 205	Gangwana 57, 64
Dhumdas 204	Garh Bitli 89, 90
Didwana 59, 86, 87, 122, 210, 221, 266, 267, 272, 274, 291	Ghanerao 137, 160, 247, 284
Dilir Khan 10, 12	Ghaziuddin 17, 77
Dongre 240	Ghulam Khan 153
Dost Muhammad 204	Ghulam Qadir 118, 252
Doveton, Col. 177	Godwad 99, 101, 103, 108, 128, 131, 143, 217, 218, 247, 291
Duda Koli 1	Godawas 87
Dungarpur 13, 16	Gokul 230
Durgadas 12, 13, 15, 17-20, 48, 217, 233, 236, 237, 249-251	Gopal Bhau 121, 123, 124, 135
Durjansal, Kota 51	Gopal Rao Ragunath 130
EGYPT 37	Gopal Singh, Raja 85, 86
Eranpura 294	Gopal Trimbak Rao 215
FAKIRJI GADHWA 130, 228, 229	Gordhan Khichi 247
Farrukhsiyar 21, 24, 233, 235, 250	Govind Garh 123
Fateh Chand Joshi 196	Govind Krishna 95, 97, 238
Fateh Mal, Diwan 78	Govind Rai 9
Fateh Raj 167, 169, 195	Govind Rao 101-103
Fateh Ram Kayastha 73	Govind Rao Ballal 99
Fateh Singh 127	Govind Tamaji 70
Fateh Singh, Gaikawar 234	Govind Das, Shobhavat 83
GAJSINGH Bikaner 58, 62, 72, 79, 85, 242	Gudlas, 80
Gambhirmal 193	Gujrat 1, 11, 16, 19, 20, 23, 25, 28, 29, 33, 35-49 61, 233, 234, 236, 243, 244, 258, 266
Ganga Ram 121, 125,	Gulam Hussain, Sayyid 234
Ganga Singh 179	Gulraj 167, 169
Gangarde 79	Guman Singh 134
	Gwalior 82, 183, 193, 231, 288
	Gyfford 3
	HAMID KHAN 28, 32

- Hanvant Singh 245  
 Harcharandas 235  
 Hari Rao 142  
 Hari Singh, Asop 164  
 Hari Singh Kumedar 142  
 Harper, Col. 112  
 Harsolav 83  
 Harsor 284  
 Hastings, Lord 170, 171, 174  
 Hawkins 184  
 Hindaun 115  
 Hindukush 202  
 Hindu Rao, Ghatke 228  
 Hingane, Bapuji Mahadea 70, 77  
 Hingane, Purshotam Mahadeo 240  
 Himmatt Bahadur 112  
 Hira Singh 157, 216  
 Hurda 50, 51, 250  
 Hurmera 147, 148  
 Hussain Ali 23-25  
 Hyderabad 148, 149  
 IDA, LAKHDIR 46  
 Idar 28, 29, 32, 243  
 Inda 285, 286  
 Indana 80  
 Indar Raj Singhvi 140, 162—165, 214, 246  
 Indar Singh Mertia Madhojasot 271  
 India 300  
 Indore 226, 231, 241  
 Intizamuddaula 76  
 Isarnavda 269  
 Ishwardas, Nagor 234  
 Ishwari Singh 59, 64—67  
 Ismail Beg 120, 121, 130, 132  
 JAGAT SINGH, Jaipur 144, 146, 149, 151, 159, 219  
 Jagat Singh, Jodha 274  
 Jagat Singh, Udaipur 250  
 Jagannath Jaitaot 269  
 Jagannath Purohit 70, 71, 80, 82, 95, 219, 242  
 Jagjiwan Bhatt 250  
 Jagmal Singh 266  
 Jahanara 8  
 Jahandarshah 21, 233, 236, 243  
 Jaipur 16, 27, 52, 59, 64, 67, 73-75, 78, 79, 91, 93, 96, 99, 106-111, 119, 121, 122, 133, 137, 138, 141, 142, 144, 149-154, 180, 203, 220, 231, 236-238, 240-243, 246, 247, 275  
 Jaisalmer 127, 195, 201, 240  
 Jaitaran 26, 57, 266,  
 Jait Singh Ranwat 268  
 Jaju, Basni 273  
 Jajiwal 274, 275  
 Jalor 19, 29, 32, 34, 63, 81, 83, 87, 89, 90, 122, 127, 134, 135, 151, 152, 210, 240, 265, 269, 270, 274, 291  
 Jalwana 271  
 Jambusar 35  
 Jamrud 11, 12  
 Janjira 16

- Jankoji Sindia 78, 80, 82, 85,  
 87, 89, 91, 93, 94, 218  
 Jasvantgarh 291  
 Jasvantpura 39, 225, 291  
 Jasvant Singh 1-12, 40, 209,  
 224, 225, 233, 234, 237,  
 243, 244 294  
 Jasvant Rao Holkar 141, 142,  
 147, 214, 217, 218, 226,  
 227, 239, 258  
 Javid Khan 76  
 Javlia 284  
 Jawan Singh 271  
 Jawan Singh, Mertia 78  
 Jawahar Singh, Bharatpur 99,  
 235, 273  
 Jaya Singh, Mirzaraja 1,7  
 Jaya Singh, Sawai 27, 29, 32,  
 49-57, 62, 64, 243, 250  
 Jayappa Sindia 71, 72 78-83  
 211, 217, 231, 235, 239  
 249, 266, 268  
 Jean Baptiste 154, 156  
 Jeetmal 195  
 Jhadol 13  
 Jivaji, Dada 110, 119, 121,  
 124, 125, 135, 136  
 Jiwan Ram, Pandit 226  
 Jiwandas Gahlot 141  
 Jodhaji 209  
 John Adams 251  
 John Malcolm 179  
 Joshi, V.V. 239  
 KALAGUNA 238  
 Kale 238  
 Kalu Ram 158  
 Kalyandas 130, 141  
 Kani Ram 63  
 Kanmal Bhandari 158  
 Kanthaji 32, 34, 38, 41, 42,  
 44, 48, 53, 265  
 Karauli 58, 86  
 Karni Dan, Barahat 70, 92, 93  
 Kashi 82  
 Kaur Chand 186  
 Kavi Kalash 15, 17, 18, 217, 250  
 Kekri 74, 89  
 Kesarsingh Udaot 78  
 Kesav Rao, Raja 92, 94  
 Kesho Rai 65  
 Keshri Singh, Thakur 164  
 Khafi Khan, Muhmmad Hashem  
 4, 233  
 Khairwa 131  
 Khali Rao 144  
 Khanaji Yadav 84, 86, 95, 97  
 98  
 Khandesh 13, 37, 38  
 Khandoji Appa 114  
 Khane Dauran 43, 50-53  
 Khande Rao 111, 142, 148  
 Khande Rao Dabhade 22, 38  
 Kharita Balu 245  
 Khasaswari 223  
 Khed 5  
 Khejurla 284 286  
 Kherwa 284  
 Khichiwarra 112  
 Khinwasar 63, 284

Khudabux Ghasiara 63  
 Khurasan 37  
 Kirthar 202  
 Kishangarh 50, 79, 116, 137,  
     150, 199, 201  
 Kondhana 6, 237  
 Konkan 13  
 Kōta 50, 78, 91, 151, 183,  
     195, 239, 292  
 Kripa Ram 220  
 Krishnaji Ananat 237  
 Krishnaji Jaganath 110, 127,  
     135 139, 213, 214, 240  
 Krishna Kumari 144, 146, 148,  
     149, 159, 160  
 Kuchawana 63, 284  
 Kudi 275  
 Kudoli 217  
 Kumbhal Garh 137  
 Kushalgarh 63  
 Kutubuddin 165  
 LADOO NATH 197, 203  
 Ladpura 72  
 Lahore 12  
 Lakha Bai 142, 227  
 Lalpat Parihar 72  
 Lal Singh 270, 273  
 Laswari 141  
 Laxman Anant (Lakhwa Dada)  
     136—139, 216, 246  
 Laxman Singh Chandot 273  
 Laxmi Chand 185  
 Laxmi Das 265

Lesténeau 114  
 Le Vassouli 114  
 Ludawas 267  
 Ludlow, Capt. 190, 193, 207  
 Luni Akhtar 176  
 Luniawas 67  
 MACHERI 106, 112  
 Macnaughton 203  
 Madho Singh 64-70, 74, 79,  
     85-88, 92, 94-99, 112, 242,  
     243, 260  
 Mahabat Khan 11  
 Mahadaji Sindhia 97-102, 105-  
     112, 116-121, 127, 128,  
     132, 135-139, 158, 214,  
     215, 219, 220, 229, 230,  
     239-241, 244-247, 252  
 Mahamandir 182, 184, 186,  
     188-190 192, 246  
 Mahasingh Champat 266  
 Maheshdas Kumpat 109, 124,  
     125  
 Mahi 38  
 Mahamud Baz 176  
 Makrana 104, 217, 231  
 Malaji 43  
 Malhar Rao Holkar 40, 48,  
     49, 51, 53, 54, 57, 60, 61,  
     64, 67, 68, 72, 142, 226,  
     244, 266  
 Malkot 162  
 Malam Singh Rudpalot 269  
 Malani 202, 203

- Malpura 138  
Malwa 28, 35, 37, 38, 53, 55,  
56, 74, 79  
Man Singh 134-155, 157-163,  
166-168, 172-176, 182,  
183, 186-201, 203-208,  
211, 215-219, 226-231,  
244, 246, 247, 250, 251,  
261, 263, 264, 274, 289,  
294  
Mandal 216  
Mandi 178  
Mangrol 96  
Manroop Chand Bhandari 58,  
59  
Manucci 3  
Maonda 99  
Marot 70, 72, 73, 89, 130,  
203, 284, 291  
Mathura 230  
Mavel 237  
Megadaud 274  
Merta 20, 26, 54, 66, 68, 79,  
89, 122-229, 139, 144,  
158, 162, 163, 210, 216,  
220, 221, 238-241, 247,  
266-274, 291  
Metcalf, Charles 172, 174,  
179, 202, 252, 300  
Mewar 26, 50, 99, 101, 102,  
112, 136, 139, 144, 145  
Mirza Rahim Beg 116  
Mithri 284  
Mohammad Beg Hamdani 110,  
112  
Mohan Singh Rao 79  
Momin Khan 49  
Mookhtarood Daula 155-158,  
161, 162, 246  
Moraro 269  
Moro Pant 4, 5  
Motikhan, Kyam Khani 274  
Moti Mahal 231  
Mottley (Dr.) 199, 201  
Mozabad 55  
Muazzam 8-12, 225  
Mubaraizud Daula 203  
Mughdharo 271  
Muhammad Khan Bangash 35-  
37  
Muhammad Kasim, Mirza 232  
Muhammad Saqi Mustaid Khan  
233  
Muhnot Gopal Das 127  
Muizzuddin 17  
Mukarrab Khan, Nawab 17  
Multan 86  
Murli Dhar 230  
NADOL 12  
Nagji Kiledar 289  
Nagour 27, 54, 56, 63, 66, 80-  
89, 154, 155, 210, 217,  
231, 235, 238, 239, 243,  
266, 267, 269, 273, 291  
Nagpur 177, 180, 183, 187,  
188, 190, 231  
Najaf Khan 112  
Nana Phadnavis 231  
Nander 17



- Nandwana 80  
 Narbada 50, 74  
 Narnol 58, 65  
 Naro Shankar 85, 88  
 Nar Singh Sindhia 86  
 Nath Karan, (Kiledar 195  
 Naval Rai Asopa 226  
 Nawa 98, 128, 130, 155, 162,  
 203, 221, 291, 299  
 Nawaz Khan, Shah 119  
 Nepal 189, 203, 205  
 Netaji Palkar. 4, 5  
 Neveda 1  
 Newai 231  
 Nibala 270  
 Nid 147, 148  
 Nimaj 195-197, 284, 295  
 Nimkali 273  
 Nino Machand 142  
 Niraji Raoji 10  
 Nizamulmulk 28, 35, 42-44  
 Notaman 235  
 Nund 269  
 Nurgarh 12  
 OCHTERLONY 176, 194  
 Oudh 77, 81, 97  
 PACHBHADKA 291, 299  
 Pahar Singh 92  
 Palanpur 39  
 Pali 13, 140, 273  
 Pancholi Kesar Singh 6  
 Pancholi Ramanand 96  
 Pandit Mathura Nath 127  
 Pandit Sukhram 145  
 Pandua 271  
 Panipat 90, 94, 236  
 Parasnis, D.B. 240  
 Parbatsar 89, 121, 130, 150,  
 216, 267, 291  
 Parsoji Bhonsla 177  
 Partapmal Oswal 271  
 Partap Singh Hada 54  
 Partap Singh, Ladso 164  
 Partap Singh, Jaipur 107, 108,  
 111, 248  
 Partap Singh, Macheri 106  
 Partap Rao 10  
 Patan 121, 234, 240  
 Patshahpur 14, 15  
 Pavagarh 34, 48  
 Perron 139  
 Persia 18, 37.  
 Phalke, Anantrao 239  
 Phalodi 266, 291  
 Pilaji Gaikwar 32, 34, 38, 41,  
 42, 44-48, 234, 245, 265  
 Pipar 66, 266  
 Pisagan 98, 123  
 Pokran 135, 149, 211, 216,  
 284, 285  
 Poona 6, 231, 234  
 Prayag 82  
 Prithvi Singh, Jaipur 106  
 Pusalia 297  
 Pushkar 72, 79, 92, 99, 183,  
 228, 235  
 QAMARUDDIN KHAN 49,  
 51-53, 55

RAGHUJI BHONSLE 177, 188	Ras 196-198, 284
Raghunath Rao 78, 81-84, 91, 95, 238	Ratan Lal, Rai 148
Rafiuddarajat 24	Ratanpur 20
Rahiri 13	Ratan Singh s/o Ajit Singh 56, 57, 64
Raiji Patel 110	Ratan Singh Bhandari 49
Raimal 65	Ratan Singh Jodha 273, 274
Raipur 57, 284	Ratan Singh, Mewar 99-102
Rai Singh 12, 26, 27, 31, 265	Rehmat Ali 270
Raj Singh Chohan 71, 219, 250	Rewari 117, 120
Raja Ram 142	Rian 63, 123, 200, 284
Rajgarh 16	Roandi 267, 268
Rajwade V.K. 238	Rodoji Khawas 116
Ram Chandra Pandit 230	Rohat 284
Ramdas Muhnot 199	Roshanud Daula 55
Ramgarh 86	Rugoli 217
Ram Singh, Amber 16, 128, 251	Ruhelkhand 108
Ram Singh, Jodhpur 59, 61-66, 68-73, 75, 76, 78-82, 89, 90, 93-96, 103, 106, 211, 213, 219, 235, 239, 242, 244, 250, 267, 268, 289	Rupnagar 83, 90, 121
Ramand, M. 235	Russia 202
Ramarao Sadashiv 40, 135, 214	Rustam Ali 235
Ramo 274	SAADAT ALI 55
Rampura 50, 51, 235, 238	Saadat Khan 53
Ramsar 73, 167	Sabarmati 33
Ranchod Das 9	Sabal Singh, Sanderao 192
Rane Khan 246, 247	Sadashiva 89, 231
Ranjit Singh, Khinvsar 201	Sadashiva Rau Bhau 92
Ranjit Singh, Punjab 171, 178, 196, 204	Safdarjang, Wazir 68, 69, 78
Ranoji Sindia 48, 49, 51, 53, 54, 57, 86	Sagour 203
	Sahib Chand 164
	Sahiba Patel 72, 73
	Sahib Singh s/o Bhairon Singh 272
	Sahib Singh Bedi 178

Wilson 300

YASVANT RAO BABLE 97

ZAFAR KHAN 7

Zalim Singh S/o Bijay Singh  
110, 132-136, 215

Zalim Singh, Jodha 274

Zalim Singh, Kota 112

Zalim Singh Mertia 271

Zaman Shah 137

Zanzibar 36

arise in the city <sup>1</sup> All opposition was ruthlessly put down by the Marathas, involving heavy loss of their men.<sup>2</sup> On February 18, Farrukhsiyar was deposed by the Rathor chief and the Sayyids and Rafi-ud-Darajat was proclaimed Emperor.<sup>3</sup>

The position of Ajit Singh and the Sayyid brothers became formidable under the new ruler. They were successful in getting *Jizya* abolished<sup>4</sup> and in ratifying the alliance, which Husain Ali entered into with the Marathas in 1718.<sup>5</sup> Ajit Singh, besides keeping Gujrat for himself, also acquired the governorship of Ajmer.<sup>6</sup> In March, 1719, the Maratha force left Delhi for the Deccan. However, with the accession of Muhammad

1. A letter of Maharaja Ajit Singh to Dayal Das dated 11th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 15/774th May 1719, Jd.  
Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii p.805;  
Ajitodaya. Canto xxvii. vv.23, 41-47;  
Seir. Vol.I p. 132.
2. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii pp.812-813;  
Ajitodaya. Canto xxvii. vv.49-50;  
Seir. Vol.I pp.132-133;  
The Marathas lost some 1500 to 2000 men.
3. A letter of Maharaja Ajit Singh to Dayal Das dated 11th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1775/4th May 1719, Jd.  
Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii pp.814-816;  
Ajitodaya. Canto xxvii. vv.48-51,
4. A letter of Maharaja Ajit Singh to Dayal Das dated 11th day of the dark-half of Jyeshtha vs. 1775/4th May, 1719 Jd,  
A Kharita from Rana. Sangram Singh to Ajit Singh (undated), pf. 2 Kh. 17. Jd;  
Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii p.816;  
Seir, Vol.I p.137,
5. Dr. A.G. Powar's article 'Some Original Documents of Mughal-Maratha Relations' I.H.R.C. Proceedings 1940 pp, 204-212,
6. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii p.838;  
Ajitodaya. Canto xxvii. vv.57.  
Seir. Vol.I p.138, 231,

Shah in September, 1719, the Sayyids became unpopular with the *Turani* party. The Emperor, allying himself with the *Turani* party in the court, got Husain Ali assassinated on October 8 and imprisoned Abdullah Khan on November 13, 1720. Their partisan, Ajit Singh was deprived of the governorship of Gujrat and Ajmer in May, 1721<sup>1</sup> and ultimately done to death at the dictates of the Mughal court on June 23, 1724.<sup>2</sup>

1. Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol.ii p.937.  
Mirat-i-Ahmadi Vol.ii p. 38.
2. Ajitodaya. Canto xxxi vv. 32-33  
Marwar Khyat, Vol.ii p.183.

## CHAPTER TWO

# The Dawn of the Maratha Influence in Marwar

( 1724-1749 A.D. )

### (A) Family feud and Abhay Singh

The murder of Ajit Singh by his son, Bakht Singh on June 23, 1724, plunged Marwar into a bloody war of succession among his (Ajit Singh's) sons for the throne of Jodhpur. The Mughal Emperor recognised Abhay Singh as the new ruler on July 25<sup>1</sup>. However, the younger sons of Ajit Singh Anand Singh and Rai Singh raised the standard of revolt. They were supported by the chiefs of Jaitaot, Kumpaot and Udaot Rathors. Their immediate success was overwhelming and soon they occupied the fertile plains of Godwad, Sojat and Jaitaran.<sup>2</sup> They threatened Merta and ransacked the country around it<sup>3</sup>. Their increasing strength began to threaten the Rathor capital (Jodhpur). Abhay Singh, who was at Delhi, asked his *Dewan* Bhandari Raghunath<sup>4</sup> to take rigorous measures against the rebels. The *Dewan* got help from the Jaipur ruler, who deputed his general Rai Shiva Das for the

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1 Muntakhab-ul-Lubab Vol. ii p 974;

Abhyodaya. Canto vi, vv. 11-12.

He received the title of 'Faj Rajeshwar' with a rank of 7,000 Zat and 7,000 Sawar.

2. Letters from Abhay Singh to Abhay Karan dated 7th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1781/October 27, 1725 and dated 11th day of the bright-half of Ashadha vs. 1781/July 9, 1725. Jd.

3 Ajitodaya. Canto xxxii vv. 2-3.

A parwana (draft) from Jay Singh to Shiva Das dated 7th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1781/October 27, 1724. JP.

Godwad is a track, nearly 1543 Sq. miles, covering the tehsils of Bali and Desuri, S.E. of Jodhpur.

Jaitaran is 26° 13', N 70° 51' E, about 56 miles east of Jodhpur.

4. A parwana (draft) from Jay Singh to Shiva Das dated 7th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs 1781/Oct. 27, 1724. JP.

purpose.<sup>1</sup> Jay Singh informed the Maharana of Udaipur on November 13, that the situation in Marwar had worsened to such an extent that the Emperor had relieved Maharaja Abhay Singh from the Imperial court and allowed him to go to his native land in order to settle the internal matters.<sup>2</sup> He further requested the Maharana to send Sisodia forces to help Abhay Singh.<sup>3</sup>

On the eve of his departure from Delhi the Maharaja promised the Emperor that he would spare a force of 20 to 30 thousand soldiers for the Mughal service,<sup>4</sup> whenever he was asked to do so in lieu of the *Jagir* and financial help that he would receive from the Emperor.<sup>5</sup> Thus with the help of the strong contingents from Jaipur and Mewar Abhay Singh crushed the revolt of his brothers and unfurled his flag over the Jodhpur fort early in 1725,<sup>6</sup> Anand Singh and Rai Singh fled to Gujrat.<sup>7</sup> Abhay Singh further strengthened his position by securing the co-operation of his brother Bakht Singh, to whom he had transferred the administration of Nagor.<sup>8</sup>

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1. Ibid.

2. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Maharana, of Udaipur dated 8th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha, vs. 1781/Nov. 13, 1724. JP

3. Ibid.

4. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 8th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1782/2nd Dec. 1725. JP

5. Ibid.

6. Marwar-Khyat Vol. ii p. 125.

7. A Kharita from Abhay Singh to Jay Singh dated 10th day of the bright-half of Chaitra vs. 1782/March 31, 1726. JP.

8. A letter of Bakht Singh to Pancholi Bal Krishna dated 8th day of the dark-half of Sravana vs. 1786/7th July 1729, Jd. It gives that the actual transfer of power on Nagor was made on 30th June 1729. Tod mentions that Nagor was taken after an assault on Inder Singh, grand son of Amar Singh, by Abhay Singh (Vol. ii p. 1037). Marwar-Khyat observes that it was bestowed

In the meantime, the political situation in Gujrat drew the immediate attention of the Imperial court, which required Abhay Singh to be present in Gujrat. Sarbuland Khan was appointed the *Subahdar* of Gujrat in January 1725, in place of the Nizam-ul-Mulk. The new governor did not at once proceed to Gujrat but appointed Sujaat Khan to act as his deputy. The new arrangements were not liked by Nizam-ul-Mulk. He urged his uncle, Hamid Khan, who represented him in that province, to guard against the change. The Nizam had also secured the services of the Marathas by agreeing not to oppose their advance into Malwa and Gujrat.<sup>1</sup> The Marathas spread over Gujrat and levied *chauth*. The Emperor asked Sarbuland Khan to take the personal charge of the province. At the same time, he informed Abhay Singh to accompany him.<sup>2</sup> Sarbuland Khan left Delhi in April 1725. Abhay Singh, himself, did not proceed but directed the allied Kachhwaha and Sisodia forces to proceed to Gujrat.<sup>3</sup> the Rathor interest lay in the defence of Idar, in Gujrat, which was bestowed on Abhay Singh by the Emperor. The allied forces were instructed to save it from the Maratha attacks,<sup>4</sup> and they did so successfully.<sup>5</sup> Soon Abhay Singh realised that the Maharana of Udaipur had an eye on Idar. Hence, he demanded the

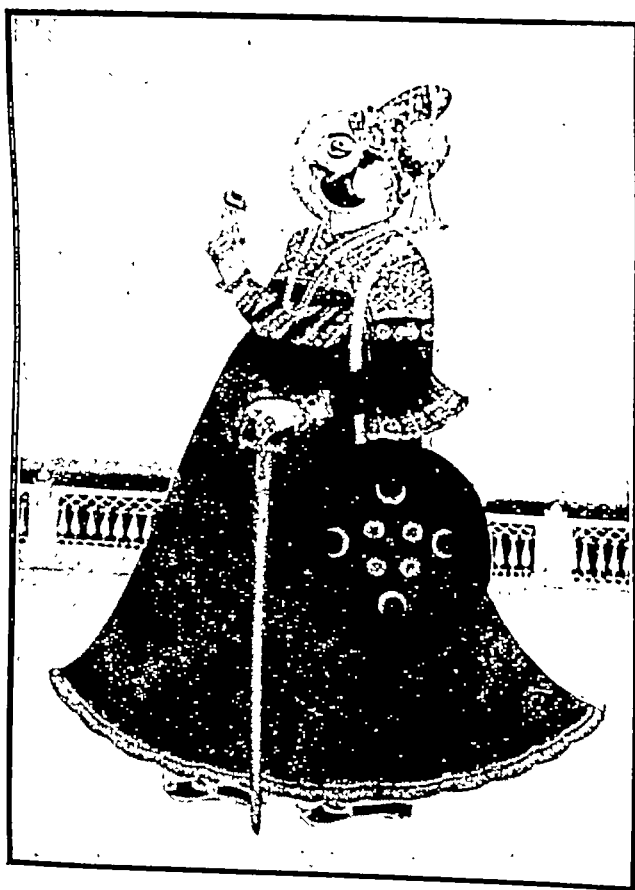
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to Abhay Singh by the Emperor in July, 1724 and it was given to Bakht Singh in October, 1725 (Vol. ii p. 126).

Nagor is 27° 12'N 73° 44', E, about 84 miles N.E. of Jodhpur.

1. S.P.D. x 1.
2. A Kharita from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 4th day of the bright-half Karttika vs. 1782/October 29, 1725. Jd.
3. A Kharita from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 4th day of Asvina vs. 1782/Sep. 29, 1725. JP.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.





Abhay Singh, Jodhpur

immediate withdrawl of his allies forces from that place. But both Jay Singh and the Maharana refused to oblige him on the pretext that their withdrawl would bring fresh inroads on Idar and undo their work,<sup>1</sup>

Abhay Singh personally did not move from Jodhpur for he wanted the promised financial aid from the Emperor,<sup>2</sup> otherwise, he was prepared to spare only four to five hundred soldiers.<sup>3</sup> The offer was inadequate. The court's feelings were communicated to Abhay Singh by Jay Singh in his letter dated December 2, 1725,<sup>4</sup> telling him that if he was not prepared to move to Gujrat and spare 2,000 soldiers at least, serious consequence might follow.<sup>5</sup> Jai Singh also hinted that if the Maharaja took up the journey to Gujrat, the promised financial help would immediately follow.<sup>6</sup> Threatened by the consequences of delay and intimidated by the repeated pressure from Jai-Singh, Abhay Singh obeyed the Imperial orders. He set out for Gujrat on November 22, 1725, <sup>7</sup> taking the route through Jalor.<sup>8</sup> The charge of the Jodhpur administration was entrusted

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1. Ibid. Jay Singh had suggested to the Maharaja that Idar might be sold to the Maharana of Udaipur in return of a cash payment. (Ibid)
  2. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 2nd day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs 1782/25th Nov. 1725; R.A. J.P. Rc.
  3. Ibid-dated 8th day of the dark-half of Margasirsha vs. 1782/2nd Dec. 1725. Jp.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.

The Emperor called Inder Singh in order to rebestow him the territory of Nagor and expressed his desire to call Anand Singh to the Imperial court so that he might be recognised as the ruler of Jodhpur. The court favoured the feelings of the Emperor.

6. Ibid. dated 3rd day of the bright-half of Margasirsha vs. 1782/26th Nov. 1725. Jp.

7. A Kharita (draft) from Jay Singh to Abhay Singh dated 12th day of the dark-half of Pausha vs. 1782/20th Dec. 1725. Jp

8. Ibid-dated 11th day of the bright-half of Pausha vs. 1782/3rd Jan. 1726. Jp.